



THE INDEPENDENT

Thursday 20 November 1997 45p (IR50p) No 3,458

The Queen of gold-rush City

The City of London looked its brash "loadsamoney" self again yesterday, after an unexpected takeover bid by an American bank handed three money managers riches beyond the dreams of avarice. Tom Stevenson watched the new money rolling in.

The streets of London were truly paved with gold yesterday for a former librarian from Newcastle and her colleagues at Britain's biggest pension fund company. They are enjoying the fattest years in the Square Mile since the boom of the 1980s.

Carol Galley and two other directors at Mercury Asset Management (MAM) together scooped almost £40m after American banking giant Merrill Lynch bought their company. In doing so, Merrill became the latest in a long line of foreign predators prepared to pay top dollar for a slice of the City's financial expertise.

Ms Galley picked up £10m after the American bank bought her shares and options. This probably makes her the City's richest woman. Her colleague, Stephen Zimmerman, took home £14m, as did Hugh Stevenson, the chairman of MAM. The payouts are certain to stoke the debate about the size of rewards available in the City.

The lottery-style bonanzas followed an unexpected £3bn takeover of MAM, a group that manages more than £100bn of the country's pensions. The swoop came as the City gears itself up for a Christmas bonus round that many believe will be one of the most generous yet.

Although Gordon Brown, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, this week publicly criticised the £247,000 salary of the Thames Water chairman, Sir Robert Clarke, there is a growing feeling that far from changing the City's culture of greed, the election has simply halted in New Labour, same old fat cats.

Although the £10m Ms Galley received for her shares and options was small beer compared to that of some of her colleagues, it came only months

after she hit the headlines with a £5.5m salary and options package. That made the 48-year-old money manager, who shuns the limelight, Britain's best paid woman.

She is certainly Britain's best paid former librarian, having been catapulted into a world that her background as the daughter of a Newcastle council worker hardly prepared her for. Having started work in the library of investment bank SG Warburg in the early 1970s, she now owns houses in the south of France and Belgravia.

The managers of insurance and pension funds, who have traditionally presented the grey face of the City, have recently achieved an unexpected prominence. Ms Galley, famously dubbed the "ice maiden" for the cool manner in which she has dispatched underperforming managers such as Sir Rocco Forte during takeover bids, is one of the most feared women in company boardrooms.

She is one of many expected to benefit from the spiralling rewards on offer in the City this year. When Barclays said last month that it planned to pull out of investment banking, its chief executive blamed the withdrawal in part on the fairy-tale money that has to be paid these days to retain talented staff. Ironically, Barclays then had to guarantee large bonuses to its key staff to prevent them jumping ship before the company could be sold.

The jury remains out on whether the enormous rewards enjoyed by the Square Mile's best-paid individuals is good for the City as a whole, or indeed the country. The takeover of MAM, widely viewed as one of the City's biggest success stories, is the latest in a string of deals which have seen ownership of Britain's financial institutions passing into overseas hands. Establishment names such as Kleinwort Benson, Morgan Grenfell and, most famously, Barings, have been snapped up by foreign buyers in the past two years.

While London remains a leading financial centre thanks to the expertise built up in the City and its geographical position, only a handful of its institutions remain British owned.

Full story, page 23
Outlook, page 25



Striking it rich: Carol Galley, who made £10m when her company was bought by an American firm. The boom times are back in the City, and huge Christmas bonuses expected this year

TODAY'S NEWS

Abuse report is a 'crash course in wickedness'

The Government agreed to set up a ministerial task force to deliver a "safer environment" for the thousands of children in residential care homes following the publication of a scathing 200-page report on child abuse scandals.

Sir William Utting's report said that at times his year-long inquiry had seemed like a "crash course in human wickedness". He made 20 recommendations to eradicate abuse and make it more difficult for paedophiles to prey on children in homes.

The inquiry was set up following revelations in *The Independent* and *Independent on Sunday* of abuse in homes in north Wales in the 1980s. Sir William said abuse continued today.

Independent writer wins top award

Jeremy Laurance, our Health Editor, was last night named the Medical Journalist of the Year by the British Medical Association.



TELEVISION The Eye, page 12
CROSSWORDS Page 32 and the Eye, page 9
WEATHER The Eye, page 10

Web address: <http://www.independent.co.uk>

9 770951 946542 47

Choose your parents: former addict mother – or middle-class academics

Appeal judges rejected a middle-class academic couple's hope to adopt the 11-year-old daughter of a former drug addict but gave them care of the girl. The couple insist it's adoption or nothing. Michael Streeter, Legal Affairs Correspondent, says her future is still uncertain.

The young girl had faced an agonising choice – agree to be adopted by a well-off couple who have been helping her, or face being returned, either to her natural mother, who has a history of alcohol and heroin abuse, or to new foster parents.

Now, by joining her mother in rejecting adoption, she may be end up living with her mother – something described in court as potentially catastrophic for her. The girl is now likely to be taken back into care while a new hearing is arranged to settle her fate.

But the academic couple from Oxford, who have refused to keep the girl unless they can adopt her, now also face a very painful choice. Should they relent? One of the judges appealed to them to keep her living with them under a half-way-house agree-

ment. Lord Justice Ward told them he expected that "their hearts will compel them out of love to accept this judgement. I refuse to accept that they are so callous as to turn her out. That would betray the humanity of their actions."

The case has highlighted the problems involved in reconciling the wishes of natural parents and children and what might be considered the child's "best interests" with more affluent carers. Although all agreed the girl has prospered under her carers' guidance, both she and her real mother have objected to adoption.

The backgrounds of the carer couple and the child hardly be more different. The pair from Oxford, both doctors of philosophy, were described in court as "living in comfortable circumstances" in the north of the town, with access to good schools.

In contrast the girl, now aged 11, was born to a heroin addict, a woman whose upbringing was described by Lord Justice Ward as "tragic". The mother, who lives on a council estate, was sexually abused at the age of five, married at 16, and in a later relationship conceived the girl while addicted to heroin; the child was born weighing five and a half pounds and suffering from withdrawal symptoms.

At the age of seven the girl, who cannot be identified for legal reasons, had to call the emergency services after finding her mother's current partner dead from a drug overdose – her mother was too intoxicated to care for her.

Against this backdrop of vivid contrasts, the Court of Appeal yesterday had to decide whether to back a county court judge's decision to allow the academic couple to adopt the girl, who had done well at school since she joined them in December 1994 aged eight.

In a case one of the judges described as "painfully difficult", they were faced with advice on one side that to be returned to her natural mother, especially without a long period of rehabilitation, could be "catastrophic" for the girl though they remain close.

On the other the academic couple, whose care had made a marked improvement in the girl's education, insisted in theirs and the child's interests – on the certainty of adoption or nothing. Although never promised they could adopt, they had been led to believe it was likely and had married last year to qualify.

By a split two-to-one verdict, the judges rejected adoption but instead recommended a separate option, a residence order allowing the girl to remain

with them.

Giving the majority judgement, Lord Justice Ward said he sympathised with the carers' dilemma, and said that their admitted "element of selfishness" in their stance was understandable. But, hoping the couple might change their mind, he said if they rejected the girl it could cause "untold harm to her emotional development".

Lord Justice Judge said the couple had faced the real mother with a stark choice, and some might wonder whether they were not putting their own interests ahead of what might be thought best for the girl. No one doubted that the best interests of the child, who came from a "deprived and disturbed background", lay in staying with an "intelligent and thoughtful couple ... and a happy and settled home".

After the judgement the carers' barrister, Fiona May, said the residence order "remains unacceptable" to the couple, and called on the local authority to start a rehabilitation plan for the mother and child. The couple, who refused to comment after the hearing, are believed to want the matter dealt with inside three months. The judges agreed there should be a High Court hearing "of some urgency".

Full story, page 3

INSIDE TODAY

Women who fly high, fall hard



FEATURES

Parliament is dead

21/ANDREW MARR

A guilt-free One Night Stand. Is it possible?

THE EYE

Degrees that get you the best jobs

EDUCATION+

Gerry Francis: Escaping from football's managerial madhouse

30/SPORT

NISSAN
YOU CAN
WITH A NISSAN

"There's some pizzazz to this car, like the people who designed it cared."

For keen drivers out there, the Primera is number one."

(SHOCK HORROR! A KIND WORD FROM JEREMY...)

IT'S A DRIVER'S CAR. SO DRIVE IT.
THE NEW PRIMERA

FOR MORE INFORMATION TELEPHONE 0345 80 95 95

COLUMN ONE

Lost your way? Just follow that bird

A famous New Yorker cartoon shows a policeman explaining to a tourist how to find some famous location. The policeman's speech is shown as a bubble containing a precise map of left and right turns, landmarks and destination.

The listening tourist has a thought bubble which also contains a map – but it is a terrible, confused thing where the policeman's solid directions have become a wandering squiggle.

That's the trouble with trying to tell people how to find things: they have to have the same map in their head that we do, or else you're wasting your breath. And describing a picture in your head is one of life's hardest tasks: "It's past the blue pub – well, it looks blue when the yellow streetlight's on, though really it's sort of green..."

When a place or system (such as a computer) is familiar to you, scientists say you have a "cognitive map" of it: you know how to get from A to B. (Of course, when a computer is new to you, you do not have a cognitive map for how it works – hence beplines.)

We feel confident that we can bold cognitive maps in our head because we're conscious, sentient beings. But how do other animals which find things do it? How do squirrels find nuts they've buried for their essential winter stores, and how do birds that bury seeds (as some do) locate them when they fly back into the area?

It turns out that these lower animals also use cognitive maps – a fact established by a pair of scientists at the University of Nebraska who experimented with birds called the corvid Clark's nutcracker. Their work is published today in the science journal *Nature*.

In the ungenerous way that scientists have, Alan Kamil and Juli Jones kept the birds hungry and then put them into an observation room with posters on the walls, and a door, porthole and smoked-glass window on the east wall. There were also north and south landmarks, with a seed buried halfway between them; the birds entered the

room each time via the eastern porthole. The birds got used to finding the seed, even when it was well buried.

Then the scientists started moving the landmarks around. Which did not trouble the birds: they simply looked for the landmarks, found the halfway point, and dug for the seed there.

So the experimenters started playing nasty tricks on these tourist-like birds, and began shifting the north-south landmarks away from their north-south orientation relative to the porthole. The birds still beaded for the halfway mark. The height of the landmarks was changed. No problem for the birds. The seeds were removed altogether (in case the birds were cheating by smelling them). Still, the birds hit the mark.

Eventually, the duo had to admit that the birds could do it: they could build a cognitive map. Or, as the paper puts it, "nutcrackers can learn to find a spatial position defined by an abstract geometric relationship".

Quite where this leaves the human race is an entirely separate matter. If birds can fly halfway around the world and then return to the same spot by holding a map inside their (comparatively) rudimentary brains, what does that say about us, struggling to follow the directions of New York policemen and the entreaties of computer beplines operators? Perhaps what we really need is not to be so clever, but a little more bird-brained in our approach to the world. It's a solution that could work wonders – as long as nobody moves the goalposts while we're not looking.

— Charles Arthur, Science Editor

CONTENTS

Abuse scandal	4	Architecture	18
Leading stories	5	Features	19
News	6,9,10	Leader, letters	20
Young Britain	7	Comment	21
Consumer news	11	Obituaries	22
World news	12	Business	23-28
Technology	13	Sport	29-32
Apartheid	15	Crossword	The Eye, 9
European news	16	Weather	The Eye, 10
Politics	17	TV & Radio	The Eye, 11-12

PEOPLE



Gary Glitter questioned over child pornography

Pop star Gary Glitter (above) was yesterday at the centre of a child pornography inquiry after images were allegedly discovered stored on a computer he took for repair.

Glitter – whose real name is Paul Gadd – was arrested by police after staff in a computer store allegedly found indecent pictures as they tried to repair a faint. Officers later searched the star's home in Wedmore, Somerset, and his London flat and seized a quantity of videos and indecent pictures of children have been seized.

Glitter, 53, was questioned by detectives in Bristol on Tuesday before being released on police bail while further inquiries were made. He has not been charged with any offence. Glitter's spokesman said yesterday: "He has been released without charge. He is not available for comment."

Seventies legend Glitter, who still plays to sell-out crowds of fans across Britain, is due to be in

terviewed by detectives again in the New Year. An Avon and Somerset Police spokesman said today: "I can confirm that a 53-year-old man was arrested and a computer was seized. I can also confirm that we have searched an address in London and videos and numerous indecent photographs of children have been seized."

Glitter last night denied committing any offence. He said his 10-date Christmas British tour would go ahead as planned and his new album will be released on Monday. The tour is due to start in Cardiff on 9 December and ends in Manchester on 21 December.

Glitter, a father of two, has sold 18 million records during his career, which has included hits such as "I'm The Leader of the Gang (I Am)". He has managed to beat off drink and drug problems which drove him to two suicide attempts and still tours the country every Christmas.

'Starlight' skater sues for fall

A top dancer in the roller-skating musical *Starlight Express* wept yesterday as she told the High Court in London how an accident on stage ended her career.

Caron Davis said that she was introducing her character, Diana, to the audience at a show in March 1994, when the toe-stop on her right skate failed to brake and her legs flew up in the air before she ended up on her backside.

"I was in shock but I carried on singing," she told Judge Christopher Hordern QC. "I was so embarrassed because I never fall over. I was one of the strongest skaters in the show, but I couldn't do anything to keep my balance. The adrenaline was still pumping, the muscles still warm, and I carried on with the show."

Ms Davis, 31, of Ruislip, west London, described how damage to ligaments in her lower back meant she had to retrain as a reflexologist. "I miss my career as a dancer – this is what I've been doing since I was three," she said.

Ms Davis, whose stage name

was Caron Cardelle, is suing the Really Useful Theatre Company Ltd, which manages the Andrew Lloyd Webber musical at the Apollo Victoria theatre, claiming it was negligent in not doing more to keep the stage clean.

The company denies liability and claims the accident was caused by her own lack of attention or lack of skill.

Ms Davis told the court that after her fall she discovered fluff on her toe-stop which, she said, was either blown on to the stage by the air-conditioning or came from new carpet in the front of house.

Her counsel, Howard Lederer, said the show in which she was injured was briefly stopped shortly afterwards for the stage to be swept and treated with a special cleaner. The stage manager's report for the performance showed that various cast members complained that the stage was slippery. A report from another performance four months later said it was like an "ice-rink".

The case continues.

Schoolboy flees to Caribbean

A 16-year-old schoolboy from one of the country's top public schools has run away to the Caribbean to escape "exam stress", it emerged yesterday. Fenn Chapman disappeared from Rugby School, Warwickshire, and boarded an aircraft heading for Barbados at Manchester Airport on Tuesday morning.

The teenager, who is believed to be suffering from exam stress, is known to have landed on the island, but has not been seen since.

Warwickshire police alerted Interpol after the boy was reported missing by the school. A spokesman for Warwickshire police said the teenager, whose parents live in North Yorkshire, had recently spent a family holiday on the island and was familiar with the area.

"We believe he has friends and contacts on the island, but obviously the police, Interpol, his school and his parents are very concerned for his welfare," a police spokeswoman said.

UPDATE

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

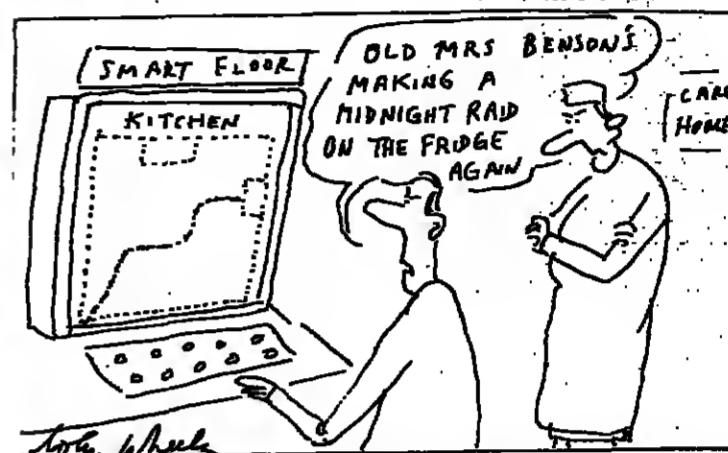
Children tug at purse-strings

Children may not hold the purse strings of the family budget, but they influence more than £31bn worth of consumer spending each year, and their influence is not confined to toys and games. They also wield £6.27bn worth of power over house purchases, £1.64bn over car choices, and £1.56bn over computer buys, research by Saatchi & Saatchi has found.

However, the agency says the area where children under-15 have the most financial clout is over the dinner table. When it comes to day-to-day meals, children's likes and dislikes influence what is served up to the value of £12.96bn. When mothers were asked whether they took their children's views into account, 75% of mothers said children had most influence over lower cost items like toys and breakfast cereal purchases. But 22 per cent said they would also take their children's views into account in moving house. In the area of children's clothes, their power is worth £1.87bn.

TECHNOLOGY

'Smart' floor warns of danger



A "smart" floor has been developed that can recognise if someone is walking on it and even check their breathing and pulse if they fall. The polypropylene flooring material is expected to help ensure the safety of frail or confused people, such as the elderly or mentally ill. The material has a pressure-sensitive film full of bubbles that register an electric charge whenever they are vibrated. The film can be laid into concrete and covered with anything from linoleum to ceramic tiles, and if a person wanders around in the middle of the night a warning signal is sent out. The film is produced by the Finnish company Messel, which claims it will cost less than £20 per square metre, a report in *New Scientist* magazine says. Trials of the flooring are taking place in private nursing homes in Finland.

GENDER STUDIES

Baby boys stick together

Male babies can tell what little boys and girls are made of even at three months, scientists report in *New Scientist*. They said boys of that age appear able to detect the difference between male and female infants – and prefer other boys. Researchers at Durham University tested the gender preference of 60 three-month-old infants by showing them photographs of male and female babies wearing clothes. They noted which the infants looked at first and how long they spent looking at babies of their own sex. Pictures of trucks, dolls, and five-year-old children of either sex sparked little interest. But the boys showed a marked increase in curiosity when shown pictures of other male infants. Three-month-old girls showed no preference.

Big George Webley

In Tuesday's *The Eye*, the theme music for *Have I Got News For You* was incorrectly attributed. The programme's theme was written by Big George Webley.

TOURIST RATES

Australia (dollars)	2.36	Italy (lira)	2.797 (yen)
Austria (schillings)	19.97	Japan (yen)	212.56
Belgium (francs)	58.70	Malta (lira)	0.62
Canada (\$)	2.33	Netherlands (guilders)	3.20
Cyprus (pounds)	0.83	Norway (kroner)	11.64
Denmark (kroner)	10.89	Portugal (escudos)	288.46
France (francs)	9.50	Spain (pesetas)	238.92
Germany (marks)	2.84	Sweden (kroner)	12.54
Greece (drachmae)	449.35	Switzerland (francs)	2.31
Hong Kong (\$)	12.70	Turkey (lira)	306.733
Ireland (pounds)	1.08	USA (\$)	1.65

Source: Thomas Cook

Rates for indication purposes only

ZITS



by Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman

7.30 FOR 8

by Chris Priestley

GET CLOSER TO NATURE THIS WINTER.

Riva zoom 70 outfit.
35-70mm Zoom.
Fully automatic. High quality aspherical Zoom lens. Self-timer. Versatile automatic flash with red eye reduction. £289.99

70W outfit.
28-70mm Zoom.
Ultra wide-angle telephoto Zoom lens. Smooth pebble shaped design. Soft flash for natural looking portraits. £189.99

115EX outfit.
38-115mm Zoom.
Soft flash for natural portraits and close-ups. Sleek capsule design. Fully retractable Zoom lens and flash. Aluminium casing. £199.99

140EX outfit.
38-140mm Zoom.
The world's smallest Zoom compact in its class. Five modes to match your subject. Stylish aluminium casing. Includes remote control. £249.99

MINOLTA

Minolta (UK) Ltd, Rooksley Park, Precedent Drive, Rooksley, Milton Keynes, MK13 8HP.

3/LEADING STORIES

IN TOMORROW'S INDEPENDENT

Film, theatre, rock,
pop, jazz and
classical music.
In the 32-page Eye



Teenage Fanclub:
on the road
with Radiohead

THE EYE



Francesca Annis:
living with notoriety
... and Ralph Fiennes

THE EYE

Judge overrules parents' wish for dying baby

A High Court judge gave doctors the go-ahead for a course of action which could allow a fatally ill baby to die, despite objections from her parents. Michael Streeter, Legal Affairs Correspondent, looks at the tragic case.

Baby "C" can smile and recognise her mother and father. Her loving parents, who are deeply religious orthodox Jews, cannot bring themselves to face the "inevitable" future of their child, who is suffering a muscle-wasting condition.

In his judgment yesterday, Family Division President Sir Stephen Brown said: "They visit her and see a reaction which is favourable in her face towards them. They do not believe it is within their religious tenets to contemplate the possibility of indirectly shortening life, even if that is not the purpose of the course which the doctors believe to be appropriate in order to spare her further suffering."

The treatment proposed by hospital doctors, including withdrawal of artificial ventilation and non-resuscitation if she then stopped breathing, was "the best interests of the child". He said it would also include "palliative care to ease the suffering of this little girl to allow her life to end peacefully and with dignity".

The parents had agreed that she should be taken off ventilation in a last attempt to see whether she might survive for a time, but they wanted to be assured that ventilation would be resumed if she suffered respiratory relapse - a course of action doctors could not accept.

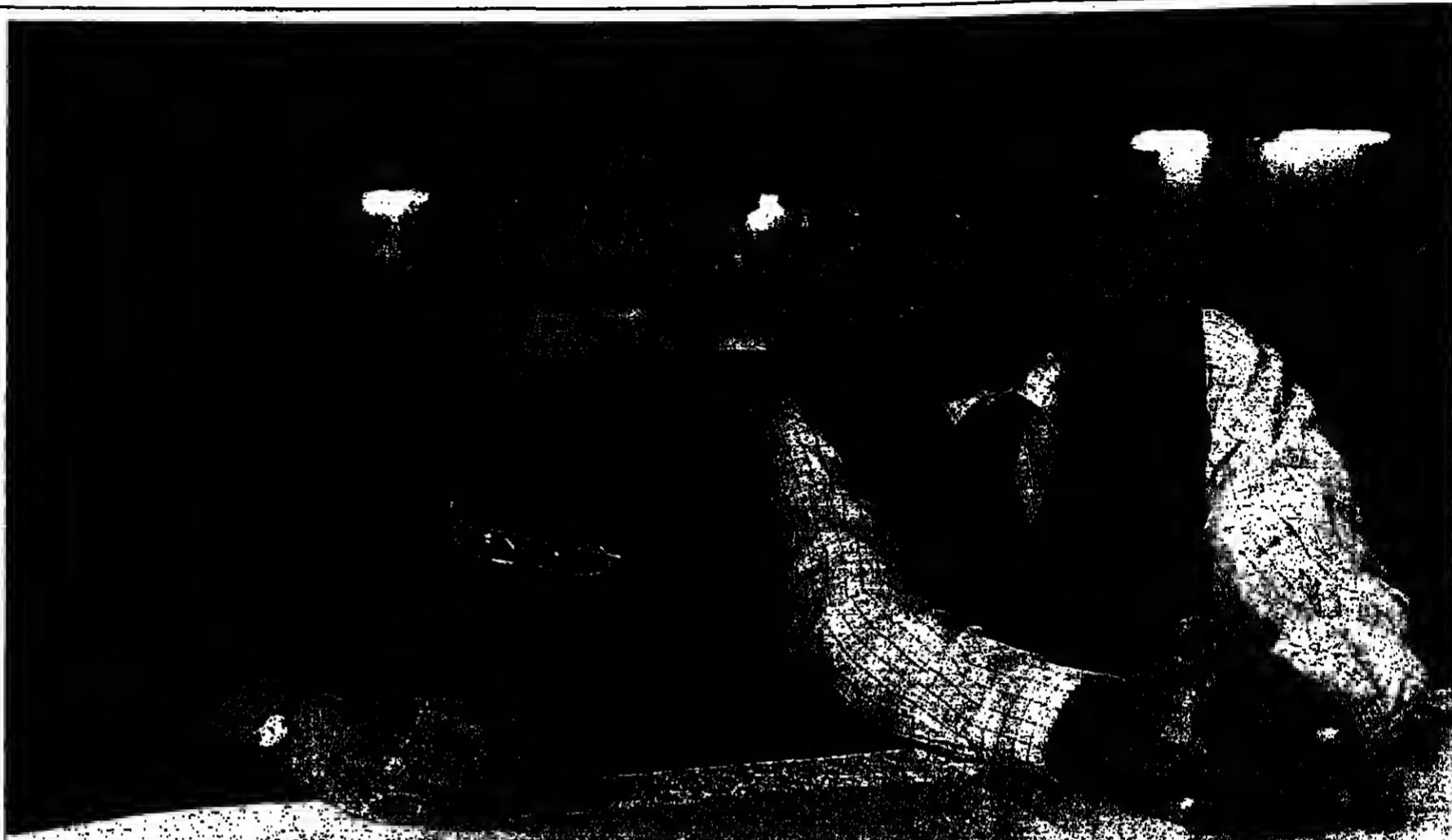
The judge agreed with the treatment proposed by the hospital trust responsible for treating the baby, which had the support of the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health. However, he gave consent "with a feeling of grave solemnity ... It is a sad feature that there is, in fact, no hope for C, and what has to be considered is her best interests to prevent her from suffering, as would be inevitable if this course were not to be taken."

The fatal disease, spinal muscular atrophy type 1, had reduced Baby C's weight from 7.5 kg last March to only 5.5 kg. Doctors say she is in a "no chance" situation in which life-sustaining treatment simply delayed death without significant alleviation of suffering. Indefinite ventilation would increase distress and involve a tracheotomy under anaesthetic, which might give rise to epilepsy.

The judge praised the bravery of the girl's parents who were doing their best to support their "treasured" daughter. He referred to a statement in which the mother said they had the highest regard for the doctors, but "we are still of the opinion that the course of action proposed would not be in the best interests of our child. Religion plays an important part in the life of myself and my family". A fundamental principle was that faith could not stand aside and watch a person die where their intervention could prevent that death. "In such a case, the person that stands by will subsequently be punished by God. Failing to resuscitate is equivalent to a situation such as this," she said.

The judge said that to accede to the parents' wishes would be tantamount to requiring the doctors to undertake a course of treatment which they were unwilling to do. "Their objective in their profession is to save and preserve life but ... while the sanctity of life is vitally important, it is not the paramount consideration. The paramount consideration here is the best interests of little C."

The Royal College recently published a report identifying situations when it may be right to stop active treatment, including "no chance" cases when treatment may delay death without easing suffering. The college's President Professor David Baum said: "The college upholds fundamental principles: children's welfare is paramount, doctors have a duty always to comfort, cherish and prevent pain and suffering." The British Medical Association said such cases were "quite common" and it was down to the judgement of medical professionals on what the best course of treatment should be.



Class differences: Peter and Jo Rado, who have adopted four children, at their home in Reading, Berkshire, yesterday

Photograph: John Lawrence

Crossing the class barrier to create a happy family

Peter and Jo Rado, an academic middle-class couple from Reading, have four adopted children. Jason, now 22 years old, was the second child to join them. He was nine years old and from a poor working-class background. Here, Mrs Rado tells Kate Hilpern about the difficulties of crossing between classes during the adoption process.

"When Jason came to us, all we wanted for dinner was pie and mash in front of the television. He found it very hard that we expected him to sit at the table with a knife and fork and make family conversation. Things like that may be trivial battles for many families but, for us, they highlighted so clearly the difficulties of Jason having to adapt from one class of family to another."

"... He did not really know where he belonged. Although we made a conscious effort not to try and change his South London accent to sound more like ours, there were times when we picked him up on pronouncing his ts, and I think he was resentful ... In fact, he still feels he has to be a chameleon. Just as he changed his speech and behaviour according to whether he was attending state school and fee-paying school, he admits that even now he speaks more precisely when he is with our extended family. As a result, he does not feel as relaxed as he could do."

"In fact, we took him out of the state-school system because he didn't seem to fit in but he faced the same problems at private school. When you're adopted, feeling that you belong is so important and when you don't have a clear idea of where you fit, this can loom considerably. And being academics meant that both of us could be around in the daytime and so either of us could pick him up from school. Whilst that seems nothing but positive on the surface, it seemed to make him feel that he stood out even more."

"Before Jason joined our family, he had been used to funfairs, loud music and wall-to-wall television. It was a huge shock to him to find that our family interests were museums, visiting National Trust properties and having holidays abroad. He went along with it until he was around 14 and able to vote with his feet - which he certainly did. I can remember endless difficult outings when he was a very unwilling participant. Hobbies can be so class-orientated and we never realised the complications that can cause."

"Then there were the music lessons, which we felt were so important as a result of our love of classical music. We paid for Jason to have cello lessons because it was clear he had a musical ability which was not being tapped into. But again, it was an activity that was alien to him ... we hoped he would enjoy music, art and reading but he resisted it all. Whilst he can look back in hindsight and wish he had made more of it, it was understandably difficult for him to adjust."

"The last summer Jason spent with his natural family was disastrous for him and he is now grateful that he did not stay with them, despite the fact that he has been in touch with his birth mother recently. And whilst we feel Jason's life has been richer and fuller than it could have been with the problems that his natural family were suffering, we never forgot that was his home at one stage ..."

"One thing Jason used to comment on throughout his upbringing was the amount of money we gave to charity. It was as if he felt that money should have been spent on him, now that he was getting used to a more affluent life, and that he was missing out as a result. We buy many clothes from charity shops and he would often be resentful. Now, Jason says he considers himself somewhere in the middle of both types of family. Upper working class is the expression he uses. And despite all the problems and uncertainties he has had to face as a result of cross-class adoption, he does stress that he now feels he has the rare opportunity of having a deeper insight into both worlds ..."

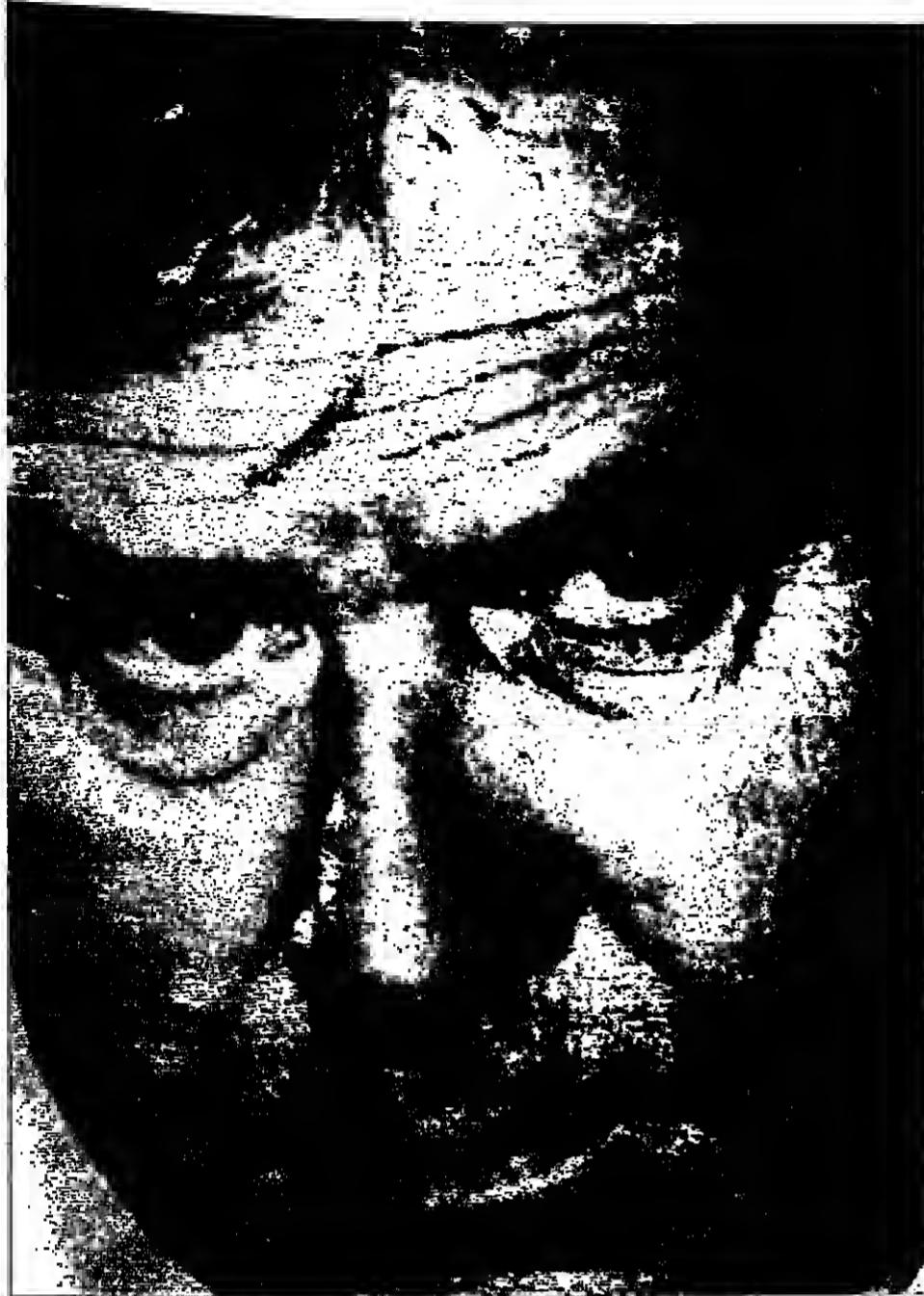
Bière
Blonde
Finement
Brassée
en
France

"33"
EXPORT

LA PETITE BIÈRE
BLONDE CÉLEBRE

5/LEADING STORIES

Is this the man to blame for the Iraq fiasco?



Shooting from the hip: Richard Butler, Unesco's bluff Australian chairman, whose confrontational style has got him in trouble with the UN as well as Baghdad

FOREIGN MINISTERS SEEK SOLUTION IN GENEVA

Foreign ministers from Britain, France, Russia and the United States met in Geneva last night to discuss a Russian proposal to resolve the crisis over Iraq's expulsion of American UN weapons inspectors and avoid American military action.

Yevgeny Primakov, the Russian foreign minister, said he expected "a lot" to come out of the meeting, following talks with Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi deputy prime minister in Moscow on Tuesday.

Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, cut short a visit to India to attend the talks.

Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, and his French counterpart, Hubert Vedrine, were scheduled to hold bilateral talks before the meeting at the United Nations European Headquarters. Ms Al-

bright's spokesman, James Rubin, had said yesterday that it would not be clear if the decision to hold the meeting meant an agreement was near until "we arrive in Geneva and we have a chance to study what Foreign Minister Primakov brought with him."

But diplomatic sources said it was likely that a significant degree of consultation would have already taken place before the meeting. President Bill Clinton had threatened military action against Iraq, announcing earlier this week that he was sending additional combat aircraft, including six B-52 bombers, to the Gulf. But the US has failed to gain international support for military action and is under pressure to find a diplomatic solution.

The military action was in response to the expulsion of six American members of the UN weapons inspection team last week, which effectively suspended the UN Special Commission on weapons inspection (Unesco), set up after the end of the Gulf War in 1991. Russia accepts Iraq acted unlawfully in restricting the UN weapons inspectors' access, but opposes military action, saying that Iraq should be given incentives in return for implementing UN resolutions.

On Monday, the US said that Iraq could be allowed to increase its oil sales to buy humanitarian goods. Iraq's UN ambassador, Nizar Hammoud, dismissed this as a "non-starter" because it did not address Iraq's aim of having sanctions lifted entirely.

— Harriet Martin, Geneva

New Labour puts its spin on government information

The Government has drawn up new guidelines for its press officers. Some ministers are unhappy about the way their policies are being portrayed. Michael Streeter, Legal Affairs Correspondent, has had an early glimpse of the rules and considers the likely reaction.

For the eight senior government information officers who have left since Labour took power, some of the new advice may be greeted with a hollow laugh.

"Working with ministers is often fun and exciting and invariably generates considerable motivation and involvement," says the first draft of the guidelines, leaked to *The Independent*.

However, the same advice — drawn up by the head of the Government Information Service, Mike Granat, but with the unmistakable imprint of the Prime Minister's chief press secretary Alastair Campbell on every page — will not make easy reading for politicians either.

"Ministers sometimes find it difficult to make the distinction between the role of the civil servant and that of the spokesperson for the minister's own

political party," it says with something approaching disdain.

This "best practice" checklist of guidance, which will form the new so-called Red Book for press officers, follows concern from ministers and the party's own spin-doctors that the Government Information Service (GIS) falls far short of Labour's successful media manipulation in opposition.

It will be seen as a New Labour bible — the Alastair Campbell way to handle the media.

One of the biggest shake-ups for the information officers will be at weekends, when the old days of listening to the news and waiting for calls from reporters will be gone for ever. In a withering aside on the old practices, the guidelines say: "A home phone and television set are clearly not enough."

Instead, the weekend duty officials will be fully kitted out with a text pager, a digital mobile phone (presumably digital to prevent electronic eavesdropping), a fax and a laptop computer with access to news wires. No mention is made of who will pay the bill.

The document also warns about using off-the-record guidance to journalists — when nothing is for publication — only when "absolutely necessary". "The two are inextricably linked," says the document, "not least in the minds of ministers."

Richard Butler is a man proud of what he calls his 'Australianisms', turns of phrase that in their bluntness eschew the diplo-speak of those around him. But, as David Osborne explains, the word in New York is that the UN official in charge of weapons inspections in Iraq has gone too far.

No one can say it out loud, but Richard Butler, the bluff Australian who on 1 July took over as the chief of Unesco, the UN Special Committee responsible for ridding Iraq of all weapons of mass destruction, is in trouble. He is in trouble with Baghdad, of course. But, more gravely, he is also in trouble in New York.

The criticism, voiced privately in the corridors of UN headquarters, is this: in his handling of the crisis that has put the United States on the brink of military action in the Gulf, Mr Butler has failed utterly to lower the temperature. Indeed, by refusing to moderate his confrontational style, he has provoked and offended almost everyone involved.

The feeling over is unanimous that Butler has lost it basically, he has lost it," commented one well-placed diplomatic source here. "He shoots from the hip and it is just out helpful at a time like this."

Some of the grumpling gets personal. His detractors accuse him variously of racism and of siding with Washington against Baghdad to the extent that the

UN's credibility in the Middle East is imperiled. More vicious still are the persistent rumours of excessive alcohol consumption. "I've given all that up," Mr Butler asserted at the time to a Sydney newspaper.

Even the Americans are known to be uneasy now with Mr Butler's performance. Mostly, it has been others in the Security Council more sympathetic toward Baghdad than Washington or London, who have allowed their impatience with him to show. China and Russia were livid when Mr Butler responded to the ejection by Saddam Hussein of US members of his inspection team in Iraq by pulling out all of the other inspectors. Their irritation was mainly because the Council was not informed until Mr Butler had announced it to the press.

While Mr Butler's competence has been raised in the Security Council, it has happened only behind closed doors. A clear hint of dissatisfaction came with

a statement issued late last Thursday condemning Baghdad's actions. A draft said the Council "expresses its full support for the Special Commission under its executive chairman (Butler)". In its final form, however, all reference to the chairman had vanished.

At first glimpse, Mr Butler, 55, had seemed the perfect fit when the former chairman of Unesco, Rolf Ekeus, a soft-spoken Swede, announced at the start of the year that he would be stepping down. The Australian's no-nonsense style was considered by the British (although the Americans had reservations from the start) as ideally suited to the task of holding Iraq to the conditions of the Gulf War ceasefire: that it rid itself of all weapons of mass destruction, nuclear, chemical and biological, and show itself to have done so.

He also had impeccable credentials in weapons control. For many years Mr Butler was Australia's representative to

the disarmament talks in Vienna. Last year, he was widely praised for essentially saving the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty by pushing it through the UN General Assembly against Indian opposition.

Nor should the trickiness of the job be taken on be underestimated. The work of the Unesco chairman, whoever it might be, is constantly undermined by the fractures that exist in the Security Council, with the US and Britain drifting ever further from the rest.

Part of what hurts him now is the contrast between his style and that of Mr Ekeus. It is well known that when Iraq is obliged periodically to submit statements to the UN on the progress it is making towards disarming, Mr Ekeus would assist in drafting them. Mr Butler, by contrast, has refused, taking whatever statements Baghdad gives him and denouncing them without pause. He has hurt himself with his own frankness, or, as he told the *New York Times*, with his predilection for "plain Australianisms to express my incredulity about things". In the same interview, he gave voice to his suspicion that "truth in some cultures is kind of what you can get away with saying". The remark was taken by many Arab observers and governments, as racist. The Secretariat was bombarded by letters of complaint from the Middle East region and they are still pouring in. Whatever the rumblings, Richard Butler's position still looks secure. He was appointed by the Security Council and any attempt to remove him would only be portrayed as a concession to Saddam Hussein.



Fog of war: Middle East relations could be clouded by the Butler affair

Dixons

HALF PRICE TAPE DEALS

BRITAIN'S BIGGEST RANGE OF ACCESSORIES

ONE FOR ALL SO EASY

UNIVERSAL REMOTE CONTROL

- Guaranteed to operate any TV or Video.
- Controls basic functions.
- Ideal channel changer.

£14.99



ONE FOR ALL BIG EASY 4

UNIVERSAL REMOTE CONTROL

- Guaranteed to operate any TV, Video, Satellite or Cable Box.
- Controls all basic functions including Fastest.

In-store Price £19.99, SAVE £2

£17.99



PHILIPS 3 IN 1

UNIVERSAL REMOTE CONTROL

- Operates most brands of TV, video and satellite system.
- Tested with Fastest.
- Easy to set up.

£22.99



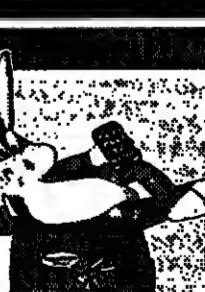
GREAT GIFTS

TV BUGS

REMOTE CONTROL TIDY

Amusing tidy for remote controls and TV guides. Don't let a lost remote drive you hopping mad.

£14.99



TV TAZ

Always losing your TV remote control? Never again with this living room tidy which hangs on the side of your sofa. Holds remote control units and magazines.

£14.99



Dixons

There's a Great Deal going on

JVC E-240 VIDEO TAPE 6-PACK

- 24 hours recording time.
- High performance.
- Designed for repeated use.

Total Separate Selling

Price £21.

Dixons Deal
£15.99

PRICE CHECK
PRICE
CHECK
BEATEN

3 WAYS TO BUY

360 STORES
NATIONWIDE

WEBSITE
WWW.DIXONS.CO.UK

24 HOUR ORDER
HOTLINE
0800 68 28 68

Pro-hunt lobby jumps Commons in pursuit of MPs

A new blood sport – hunting MPs – was launched yesterday in the central lobby of the House of Commons as Parliament was besieged by more than 800 pro-hunt campaigners to rally opposition to the Bill by the Labour MP Michael Foster banning fox-hunting with dogs.

The Commons has rarely seen so many tweed jackets and Barbour. As it was raining, the massed ranks of tweed gave off a country smell that put one in mind of standing downwind of a barn. Two of Mr Foster's constituents who support hunting were put on his scent, but failed to run him to ground, and accused the sponsor of the Bill of running scared.

Mr Foster dismissed the protest as a "stunt". He told *The Independent*: "They are saying that because two of my constituents wrote to me asking to see me, I am going to a ... meeting. I said I cannot meet them today but any other time they want to meet me, I will do so."

One Tory MP was also avoiding the hunters in the lobby. "I was told at my adoption meeting that if I ever came out

against hunting, they would be hunting me. I've never forgotten that."

The lobby was mounted to try to cut the number of MPs supporting the Bill's second reading on 28 November. The pro-hunt campaigners are hoping that by limiting the majority expected for the Bill, they will avoid the Bill's supporters claiming there is massive popular support to drive it through the Lords, where it is expected to be killed.

Meanwhile, the Government did a U-turn to lift the threat of a ban on fox-hunting on Ministry of Defence land. In a clear appeal to farmers not to ban the army from their land, John Spellar, the defence minister, said in a Commons written answer: "We have renewed licences for foxhunting on the defence estate and there should be no question of training use of private land being withheld on this account. Hunting with hounds is one of the means by which fox numbers on the defence estate are reduced."

— Colin Brown
Chief Political Correspondent



Tally ho! Fox-hunting with dogs is the target of a Labour MP's Bill. Photograph: Andrew Buurman

Every month, a **Premium Bond** holder **WINS** a **Million** pounds.



That's incredible

The facts about Premium Bonds are pretty incredible.

For instance, 44 people have become millionaires since the introduction of the £1 million monthly jackpot.

Not only that, but this month nearly half a million winners shared over £37 million in prizes – and that's tax-free.

Of course, the more you've got, the more chances you have of winning.

The minimum investment is £100 and the maximum is £20,000.

Over a period of time, anyone with a maximum holding can hope to win an average of 13 PRIZES A YEAR.

And what's more, you can get your money back whenever you want.

Imagine an opportunity where, when you win you could win big, and when you don't your investment is always safe.

Incredible.

Get your application in by 30 November to make sure your Bonds are in the incredible January draw. You can use the coupon or buy at your post office.

Premium Bonds: The INCREDIBLE investment opportunity.

PREMIUM BONDS Any person aged 16 or over can buy Premium Bonds for themselves. Bonds can be bought for children under 16 by their parents, (grand) grandparents or guardians. If you buy by post, we will send you your Bonds and a copy of the Prospectus containing the full terms, normally within three weeks. This advertisement is a simplified guide. The purchase date will be the date we receive your application and cheque. If you then wish to cancel your purchase, tell us in writing within 28 days and we will refund your money. But please note that you are not entitled to any prizes drawn on the cancelled purchase. Bonds go into prize draws one full calendar month after the month of purchase. Three months notice will be given to any changes to the prize structure or interest rate that makes up the prize fund. The Director of Savings reserves the right to seek evidence of identity.

EX1TE/

Please send this form and your cheque to:
National Savings, Premium Bonds
Freepost BJ 2092, Blackpool, FY3 9XR.
If you prefer, use a first class stamp for rapid delivery.

1 Do you already hold Premium Bonds? (please tick) Yes No
If yes, please enter your Holder's Number

2 Amount of this purchase (in words) _____ pounds £ _____ Minimum £100 larger amounts must be in multiples of £10

3 M _____ Surname _____
All forenames _____
Address in full _____
Postcode _____ Date of birth DAY MONTH YEAR

4 I accept the purchase will be subject to the terms of the current Prospectus.
Signature _____ Date _____

5 If buying for a child under 16, give name of parent/guardian:
M _____ Surname _____
All forenames _____

6 If buying for a (grand) grandchild, give name of parent/guardian above and your own name and address below.

M _____ Surname _____
All forenames _____
Address _____
Postcode _____

NATIONAL SAVINGS

This form cannot be used to purchase Premium Bonds at a post office.

Update for pollution warnings

The Government is

moving the goal posts for a key air pollutant; levels which were described as 'poor' will now be classified as 'low pollution'. It's not as daft as it sounds, says Nicholas Schoon, Environment Correspondent.

The new system for warning people about levels of air pollution launched yesterday will give Britain a world lead, according to Michael Meacher, Minister for the Environment.

Instead of air quality being classified as either "very good, good, poor or very poor" based on concentrations of three gases at any one time, pollution levels will be said to be either "low, moderate, high or very high".

Will that make any difference to wheezing asthmatics, or the drivers whose vehicles cause the bulk of the smog? Mr Meacher said the new classification is based rigorously on effects on and risks to people's health, established by extensive recent research. "Science is driving this, not politics," he said.

Once pollution reaches 'moderate' levels the Government says "mild effects unlikely to require action may be noticed among sensitive individuals", which means some asthmatics, and people with other chest diseases like chronic

bronchitis.

When pollution is 'high', people sensitive to pollution may suffer "significant" effects, and need to take action to reduce exposure by staying indoors. Asthmatics will need to use their inhalers more. When levels are 'very high', people not normally sensitive to pollution may suffer eye irritation, coughing and pain on breathing deeply.

Under the old system, nitrogen dioxide levels above 100 were described as "poor". But now the level at which nitrogen dioxide levels shift from "low" to "moderate" is 150 parts per billion (ppb) and "high" is above 300 ppb.

That means that at nitrogen oxide levels of 200 ppb – when Paris declares a major alert, bans half of all cars from the streets and makes public transport free – in London the pollution would be described as only moderate. "What happened in Paris is not necessarily the best model for us," said Mr Meacher, adding that the new nitrogen oxide bands reflect the latest medical thinking.

When 'very high' levels were forecast the Government would issue an alert and ask motorists to cut unnecessary car journeys. Under the new system there would have been a total of 43 days over the last two winters when these levels were reached somewhere in Britain.

Information is available on Ceefax, Teletext, freephone (0800 556677) and at www.environment.detr.gov.uk/airq.

New reservoir needed

Britain's second largest water company says shifts in climate and rainfall mean that it needs a large new reservoir – or its equivalent – within the next quarter century.

If it does not get one there will be frequent summer shortages, warned Severn Trent's managing director Brian Duckworth. "We don't want our customers to suffer restrictions ever again," he said. "They will not tolerate it in the 21st century."

The company was looking into alternatives to a large reservoir within its region, probably the cheapest option. One is to bring water to the Midlands from the huge Kielder Water reservoir in Northumbria, or from Scotland. Another is to take water from the Severn estuary, using a desalination plant.

The company says the statistics show more rain now falls in winter and less in summer across England and Wales. Severn Trent believes the changes will accelerate. The decline in summer rain has pushed up demand from customers sharply. What it wants is extra capacity for collecting and storing more of what falls in winter, and it says it has to be in place by 2020.

— Nicholas Schoon

Prison staff criticised

Education Bill split in two

Two prison doctors and a warden have been criticised in a report into the suicides of three women inmates.

The spate of suicides at Cornton Vale women's prison, near Stirling, between April and December 1996, led to the longest fatal accident inquiry in Scottish legal history.

Angela Bollan, 19, Denise Devine, 25, and Yvonne Gilmour, 22, were all found hanged.

The inquiry named Kevin Gratton, a prison officer, who left Bollan locked up alone for hours shortly before she died in April 1996. Mistakes were made with Devine because no-one acted after it became apparent she was refusing to eat.

The Government is to split education legislation bringing sweeping change to schools and universities into two Bills amid fears the schools programme could be delayed by opposition to tuition fees.

A Bill introducing under-graduate tuition fees is expected to receive its first reading in the House of Lords late next week.

A second Bill is expected to receive its first reading in December. It will contain a package of measures affecting schools, including steps to abolish grant maintained status.

The decision to divide the legislation into two reflects anxiety that controversy over tuition fees could hold up plans to drive up school standards.

An Erotic Review



The **Erotic Print Society REVIEW** is now available quarterly to readers for the first time. (As revealed in last Monday's *Independent*) The writers are well known. The features are provocative. The illustrations are explicit. Only the price is modest £5.00 for a subscription to four issues.

Cheques (payable to EPS) or Visa/Mastercard details to: EPS (Dept IDA) P.O. Box 10645, London SW10 9ZT or FREEPHONE 0800 026 25 24 or Fax 0171-244 6999. *N.B. SEXUALLY EXPLICIT*

Family values for the next generation

BY NICOLE VEASH AND JACK O'SULLIVAN

Many young Britons are disillusioned with their own parents for working long hours. The next generation wants to give their children a better deal, according to 2020 Vision, a survey of 10,000 young people aged between 12-25, exclusively previewed by *The Independent* every day this week.

Stephen Hartley-Brewer from north-west London is 17 and applying for university. But he is already thinking about when he will become a father, probably, he says, in his thirties. "The basic plan," he says, "is to become a merchant banker, which has a horrendous workload and dawn-till-dusk hours. It's not ideal for kids. So when I decide to have children, I'll give my job up and become a self-employed consultant so that I can work from home. Even though I might still have to work hard, I would be there for them all the time, instead of being that stressed bloke who comes home just before they are going to bed."

Stephen's attitude is typical of his generation. Asked to define a good parent, those surveyed ranked "providing nice home and clothes" bottom in their list of priorities, behind standards and discipline and concern about education. More important than all of these was "love and time spent with chil-

dren" - 77 per cent said it was the most important characteristic of a good parent.

Researchers found young people often did not regard their own parents as role models, because they had failed to provide sufficient affection or support.

Both young men and women strongly backed equal sharing of responsibility for children, although women were sceptical that the men would live up to their high principles.

"I'd want to be there for them," says Danny Docherty, 18, a DJ and youth worker from Birkhead. "If it came to push, I'd be happy to look after the kids and stay at home. I'd give up my career gladly. The well-being of a human being is more important than a career ... you have to choose before you have kids whether it's career that comes first or family. Because, to be honest, you can't have both."

Chris and Sarah Eapparillo from Bishop Stortford have already been forced into making the choice. Aged 25 and 24 respectively, they have a 16-month-old daughter, Francesca. After she was born, Chris, an internal auditor, switched his job, which involved a lot of overseas travel so he could spend more time at home. Sarah, who had worked in investment banking, gave up her job.

They have decided against having a nanny or placing Francesca in a nursery. "I felt it was a lot better to be giving my time to Francesca than going out to work. We made that decision before we got married," says Sarah.

'Children will be my priority in life'



Family girl: Beverley Bloom at the Café Du Paris. Photograph: Graham Jepson

Beverley Bloom, 22, is the daughter of self-made property tycoon Desmond, who is said to be worth more than £40m.

She is also a self-confessed shopping addict and celebrity "It girl".

"My brother, Baron, and I never had nannies. My parents actually didn't believe that we should be brought up by somebody else. As soon as we were born they decided to work from home so they could spend as much time as possible with us."

"People always find it surprising when I tell them my dad built up a successful business and didn't sacrifice time with his family. But it was a conscious decision on his behalf because he didn't want to be one of these stay-away fathers."

"I actually think my dad was unusual. Most people I know didn't see their parents very much when they were growing up. My mum and dad didn't even get baby sitters when they went out in the evening."

"Every time they needed to go to a party, we went with them, which was really fun. We were never excluded from any part of their life and that's why the four of us are still so close today."

"I would never have a nanny to look after my children because I just don't understand how people can bear to leave their children with strangers."

"You miss out on so many things if you are not around to see your children grow up. And nothing can take the place of parents who spend a lot of time at home."

"I know people who buy their children presents to make up for not being there, but there's no way material goods can replace time and affection. In the end, there's no point in having a family if you can't spend time with your children."

"When I get married, children and family will definitely be my priority in life. I want a stable home life and marriage is definitely the best place for me to bring up my children. Divorce is really awful for families. I think if you are going to get married you should stick with it and work out your problems."

"Having said that, most of my friends long to get married and have children, even if their own parents have split up, so maybe young people want to give family life another chance."

The teenagers who worship the god of mammon

They are the generation who have everything. Trainers with the right label, home entertainment systems in their bedrooms and mountain bikes in the garage. A picture emerges from 2020 Vision survey of a young nation more materialistic than any before.

Eleven-year-old Michael Berliner, from Bedfordshire, is saving up to buy the latest must-have computer game for his Playstation.

"I'm going to buy Tomb Raider II as soon as it comes out," he says. "It's going to cost about £50, which is a lot, but I've been saving up for it. And I would rather spend my pocket money on quality things because there's no point in wasting it on sweets. I might as well buy the best."

Gillian Meade, 15, from Hadlow in Kent, thinks peer pressure lies behind her generation's materialism. "We are judged on everything. What clothes we have, what trainers we wear, even what walkman we have and that's why we are so materialistic," she says.

"But I don't necessarily think this is a bad thing, because it makes us realise that you've got to do something to earn enough money so you can then go and buy what you want."

Jo Gardner, campaigns director for the Industrial Society, agrees saying: "Young people can be classified as materialistic because they buy a lot of things, but it's probably not as straightforward as that."

"What we actually see is them purchasing a badge of belonging. If they don't own a stereo, for example, they are switched off from youth music culture. To belong they have got to go and buy a stereo. This ends up becoming a necessity not a luxury."

The young also hanker after high-tech accoutrements - more own a television set (83 per cent) than a book (80 per cent). Nearly a quarter want a computer - if they don't already have one - while a Playstation or Sega Megadrive is fourth on their wishlist.

Although having the latest gadget might be a necessity for teenagers, those in their twenties have a different story to tell.

Claire Wilkinson, 22, works in the tourist industry. "When I was a teenager," she says, "I had lots of spare cash to spend on CDs or clothes. Now things are different. I've just moved into an unfurnished flat so all my money is going to be spent on basic things, like buying a bed - compared to my teenage years, I'm fairly impoverished."

Argos

Home Entertainment Update

Save up to £100

JVC 29 inch Colour TV £699.99
Dolby Prologic AV29SX2++ (537/0797)
Catalogue price: £799.99.
(Save £100).

JVC Dolby Prologic AV29SX2 CTV (537/0883) IFC:10++ (£649.99) £569.99
JVC Dolby Prologic AV21SX2 CTV (537/0890) IFC:10++ (£499.99) £469.99

Free Home Delivery and Installation (normally within 3 working days).
10 months Interest Free Credit (0% APR) available on these products.

PROLOGIC COLOUR TELEVISIONS

Hitachi 29" Prologic CTV (537/0759) IFC:10++ (£749.00) £699.99
Sony 29" Prologic KV29F3 (537/0807) IFC:6++ (£899.99) £819.99

NEC COLOUR TELEVISIONS

Hitachi 21" Necam CTV (537/0577) IFC:10++ (£349.00) £329.00
Hitachi 25" Necam CTV (537/0591) IFC:10++ (£449.00) £429.00
Panasonic 21" Necam CTV (537/0773) IFC:6++ (£399.95) £379.95
Panasonic 25" Necam CTV (537/0780) IFC:6++ (£499.95) £479.95
Sony 25" Necam CTV (537/0625) IFC:6++ (£549.99) £519.99

VIDEO CASSETTE RECORDERS

Panasonic NVS220 VCR (530/8050) + (£249.95) £229.95
Panasonic Necam CTV/NVHS220 (530/9122) IFC:6++ (£379.95) £349.95
Sony SLVE280 VCR (530/9043) IFC:6++ (£259.99) £249.99
Sony Necam SLVE280 VCR (530/9146) IFC:6++ (£399.99) £349.99

TELETEXT COLOUR TELEVISIONS

Sony 21" Text 21MT2 (537/0766) IFC:6++ (£279.99) £259.99

TELEVISION MONITORS

Citizen LCD 5.5cm CTV & colour monitor (530/7980) + (£29.99) £7.99

TV/WCR PACKAGES

Hitachi 21" Necam CTV/VCR 645 (537/0924) IFC:6++ (£668.00) £647.00
Hitachi 25" Necam CTV/VCR 645 (537/0931) IFC:6++ (£768.00) £747.00
Sony 21" Text CTV/WCR 277 (537/0814) IFC:6++ (£429.00) £409.00

Save up to £20

JVC Adagio Mini System £249.99
DT401T (510/4932)
Catalogue price £269.99
(Save £20).

10 months Interest Free Credit (0% APR) available.

SYSTEMS

JVC D601T Adagio Mini System (510/5003) IFC:10++ (£299.99) £279.99
Sony MHC-RX70 3 Disc W/Play Mini (510/4949) ++ (£329.99) £279.99
Alba SYS 1703 CD Micro System (510/3407) + ONLY £57.99

CD-RADIO/RECORDERS

Sony MC2010F CD/Stereo/Rad/Rec (510/3902) + (£79.99) £74.99
Sony MC2087 CD/Stereo/Rad/Rec (510/3988) + s (£149.99) £139.99

PERSONAL STEREO

Sony CDP195 Personal CD (510/4413) + (£69.99) £64.99
Aiwa HS-PX477 Personal Stereo (510/4358) + s (£59.99) £54.99

HEADPHONES

Sony MDRIF 128K Cordless (535/8317) + (£44.50) £39.50
Sony MDRIF 125RK Rechargeable Cordless (535/9039) + (£54.99) £49.99

IN-CAR ENTERTAINMENT

Panasonic CQD 830 RDS/Car CD Combi (500/9185) ++ s (£249.99) £228.99

Catalogue number and catalogue price shown in brackets.

18 DAY MONEY BACK GUARANTEE ON ALL PRODUCTS.

Items marked IFC:6 are available with 6 months Interest Free Credit (0% APR). Items marked IFC:10 are available with 10 months Interest Free Credit (0% APR). Typical example price of £469.99, 10 months interest free credit (0%). Minimum 10% deposit of £46.99, plus 10 monthly payments of £42.00. Total amount payable £469.99, subject to status.

Please ask in-store for further details.

Please note items marked + have previously been on sale at the same price. Items marked ++ have not been charged at intervening prices since they were first offered for sale. Items marked + have not been price reduced. Items marked ++ have previously been on sale at a lower price. All prices are correct & pricing bonuses accurate at time of going to press. All prices include VAT (17.5%) where appropriate. *Supersave only.

Argos takes care of it.

THIS LIMITED OFFER IS ONLY AVAILABLE BY CALLING US DIRECT ON

0800 611 722

LINES OPEN 8AM - 8PM MONDAY TO FRIDAY, 10AM - 4PM SATURDAY AND SUNDAY. PLEASE QUOTE 1418 2011.



COMPAQ

THE NEW COMPAQ PRESARIO 2212 HOME & OFFICE. THE COMPLETE PC PACKAGE.
FREE DELIVERY TO YOUR HOME OR OFFICE WITHIN 5 WORKING DAYS.
FREE INSTALLATION (UNPACKED, SET UP AND CHECKED BY AN AUTHORISED TECHNICIAN).
FREE ONE YEAR ON-SITE WARRANTY.
PLUS ONE YEAR CUSTOMER SERVICE AND SUPPORT.
• 180 MHZ PROCESSOR • 16 MB TOTAL SYSTEM MEMORY • 1.6 GB HARD DISK • 8 X CD ROM DRIVE
• 14" MONITOR • 3.5" FLOPPY DISK • 33.6K/14.4K DATA/FAX MODEM UPGRADABLE TO 56K
• KEYBOARD & MOUSE • INTEGRATED SPEAKERS • PRE-MODIFIED AUDIO
• MICROSOFT OFFICE 97 SMALL BUSINESS EDITION PRELOADED INCLUDING: EXCEL 97 • WORD 97
• SMALL BUSINESS FINANCIAL MANAGER 97 • OUTLOOK 97 • PUBLISHER 97
• FULL SOFTWARE BUNDLE INCLUDING: AUTOROUTE EXPRESS™ GREAT BRITAIN • INTERNET EXPLORER 3.0
ONLY £899 + VAT (£1,056 INC VAT).
OR FROM ONLY £22.99 (INC VAT) PER MONTH (15.9% FIXED APR%).

REVIEW
THE NEW COMPAQ PRESARIO 2212 HOME & OFFICE. THE COMPLETE PC PACKAGE.
FREE DELIVERY TO YOUR HOME OR OFFICE WITHIN 5 WORKING DAYS.
FREE INSTALLATION (UNPACKED, SET UP AND CHECKED BY AN AUTHORISED TECHNICIAN).
FREE ONE YEAR ON-SITE WARRANTY.
PLUS ONE YEAR CUSTOMER SERVICE AND SUPPORT.
• 180 MHZ PROCESSOR • 16 MB TOTAL SYSTEM MEMORY • 1.6 GB HARD DISK • 8 X CD ROM DRIVE
• 14" MONITOR • 3.5" FLOPPY DISK • 33.6K/14.4K DATA/FAX MODEM UPGRADABLE TO 56K
• KEYBOARD & MOUSE • INTEGRATED SPEAKERS • PRE-MODIFIED AUDIO
• MICROSOFT OFFICE 97 SMALL BUSINESS EDITION PRELOADED INCLUDING: EXCEL 97 • WORD 97
• SMALL BUSINESS FINANCIAL MANAGER 97 • OUTLOOK 97 • PUBLISHER 97
• FULL SOFTWARE BUNDLE INCLUDING: AUTOROUTE EXPRESS™ GREAT BRITAIN • INTERNET EXPLORER 3.0
ONLY £899 + VAT (£1,056 INC VAT).
OR FROM ONLY £22.99 (INC VAT) PER MONTH (15.9% FIXED APR%).

TOMORROW: how to win the young vote

9/MUSIC

Island Records founder to float new ventures

Chris Blackwell, founder of Island Records, recently severed his links with Polygram. In Strawberry Hill, Jamaica, he told Phil Davison why he had cut loose, and about his plans for a new label.

Chris Blackwell left his native Jamaica and began selling records to London's West Indian community from the back seat of his Mini Cooper at the age of 25. After launching Bob Marley, Cat Stevens, U2 and a galaxy of other stars, he sold that business, Island Records, to Polygram in 1989 for \$300m (£180m) but retained artistic control of output.

Now, after a falling out with Polygram, Blackwell is starting from scratch in the record business. Except, of course, he has a bit more cash to play with and still owns the Island Trading boutique chain and Island Outpost properties – an upmarket chain of luxury hotels and exclusive resorts.

Speaking from his 12-villa Strawberry Hill resort in the lush hills above Kingston, Blackwell, a white Jamaican from a wealthy island family, revealed that he will compete with Polygram through his little-known Jamaican record label Blue Mountain Music.

The focus will be reggae, particularly reggae artists Sly and Robbie, and a newly-signed English pop group, Marlena.

"Sly and Robbie played with



Bob Marley: Put on world stage by Blackwell

the late Peter Tosh," he said. "They've played with Grace Jones and they've been the backbone of Jamaican record production for a pretty long time. They produced the theme from the new Jamaican film *Dancehall Queen*, which was a big hit for us this year.

Marlena is a two-person combo, with 21-year-old Marlena Bush from Blackpool and her 29-year-old co-songwriter Benny Dimassa from London. Both are Anglo-Italians. "Marlena hasn't put out any records yet. It's very good sort of pop music. It's not rock, it's sort of between folkie and pop. If there's anyone you'd say she's a bit like ... No, I don't want to say who she's like ... Well, Kate Bush ... But you don't want to say someone's like someone. It's kind of damning.

"Under the deal with Polygram, we can't put out any records until next July."

Blackwell, 60, who in the Fifties was aide-de-camp to Jamaica's British governor Sir Hugh Foot, received an hon-

orary doctorate last week from the University of the West Indies in Kingston, along with one of his protégés, reggae star Jimmy Cliff, for their services to music.

He explained for the first time why he had resigned last month as the chairman of Island Records and from the board of Polygram after a dispute with Polygram boss Jacques Levy.

"Basically, we'd not been seeing eye to eye as in what my role would be. What I had wished to do was to expand a wholly entertainment group within Polygram. That's why I sold them my film group, Island Pictures, three years ago. I said, look, I've run Island Records for 35 years, I don't want to do just the same thing."

"I wanted to buy the music TV cable company The Box, which now is one of the foremost ways of breaking music, and 50 per cent of Interscope, which was available at the time and which has really been the most successful record company over the last three years, with artists like Nine Inch Nails and Tupac Shakur. If they had allowed Island to buy it, Polygram would unquestionably have been the number one company in the world."

"The chairman of the board [Mr Levy] was not really keen on these acquisitions."

Commenting on his 35 years with Island Records, Blackwell explained: "Frankly, the bigger one gets, even when it's independently-owned, it's very hard. I found it impossible to keep the same spirit as when it was very small. When it's very small, you can have a sort of guerrilla force type spirit. As we became a small corporation, it became difficult to compete. As a guerrilla force, you can compete with an army but as a small army, it's very difficult to compete with a big one."

A major catalyst in Blackwell's split with Polygram was a disagreement over a new Island Pictures film called *Gingerbread Man*, scripted by John Grisham and directed by Robert Altman. "When the film was first shown to everyone, we all liked it. But ... it didn't test very well and Polygram wanted to change the movie. Polygram's top [film] man, Michael Kuhn, never spoke to Altman and another editor was put in on the film. I disagreed with that completely. For right or wrong, Island's approach has always been to really support the artist."

Marlena is an independent operator in Hollywood for a very long time. Once you decide to go into business with him, you're essentially putting your confidence in him and his eye and what he wants to do. So I rang Levy and said, look, I want to resign. This is not how Island has ever operated."

In addition to Blue Mountain Music, Blackwell hopes to market the Jamaican football team, nicknamed Reggae Boyz, who qualified last weekend for the World Cup finals.

"We might make a compilation of reggae songs that have been written about them. I think they could take over from Brazil as everybody's second favourite team."



Island of dreams: Chris Blackwell at his Strawberry Hill resort in Jamaica. He has just been awarded an honorary doctorate for services to music by the University of the West Indies

Vodafone is giving you more words for your money.

Up to 33% more minutes free.

On January 1st, 1998, we're improving our digital tariffs to give both our new and existing customers significantly better value.

For example, current PersonalWorld 15 customers will get 33% more minutes free every month and a reduction of over 12% on peak national call charges. Our business customers will enjoy 20% more minutes free and an average 10% reduction in national call charges.* All of this for no extra cost.

What's more, we're offering these benefits automatically (there's no need to wait until January 1st to join the UK's most popular mobile network).

News like this will have everyone talking.

for the best value,
the word is

 Vodafone

*Excludes BusinessWorld 500 customers.

Old devils of heavy metal make a new pact

Cardinal Ratzinger of the Vatican must be pleased, wherever he is. Black Sabbath, a band he once condemned as an instrument of the Devil, is back. Despite years of biting the heads off bats and being surrounded by the smell of patchouli oil, the original Brumzzie heavy-metal band is planning a two-night get-together in their home-town next month.

It was hoped that *This is Spinal Tap* might have meant the death-knell for the hairy old Satanists of rock, but irony, it seems, is an unknown concept in a world where songs have titles like "A Bit of Finger", "Fairies Wear Boots" and "Rat Salad". Old denim never dies and Black Sabbath have sold out for two concerts in front of 20,000 fans unable to see the original line-up since they went their separate ways in 1979. Instead, bands called Black

— Paul McCann



Happy and glorious: City workers and visitors waving to the Queen and Prince Philip yesterday as the royal couple passed by on their way to the Guildhall in the City of London to celebrate their Golden Wedding anniversary

Summer reading schools failed to raise standards

The Government's summer literacy schools failed to improve children's reading, but did make them more enthusiastic about learning. A report to be published today is expected to question the use of "quick-fix" solutions for poor readers, says Judith Judd, Education Editor.

Overall, the reading of 900 11-year-olds who attended the literacy summer schools scheme did not improve. Some actually chalked up lower scores on tests at the end of the course than they did at the beginning. Equally, some did better.

All the pupils, who were among those just below the expected standard for their age in reading, received 50 hours extra tuition in 29 two-week summer schools at a cost of

£300,000. The scheme, which has the personal backing of the Prime Minister and was much trumpeted by the Government, was first publicised in June when Stephen Byers, the schools minister, said that 870 children would be offered the chance to boost their reading skills at the new literacy summer schools.

At the end of August, the Prime Minister chose to mark his return from holiday by announcing that the scheme was being expanded to include 16,000 pupils at 500 centres next year.

Today's report, commissioned by advisers at the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority, is based on tests carried out by the National Foundation for Educational Research. The foundation tested a sample of children who attended this year's summer schools before and after their courses.

The report is understood to suggest that other Government proposals such as a daily literacy hour in primary schools have a better prospect of raising standards than the summer schools. Ministers will, however, be able to argue that the schools have been a success because they have motivated pupils. The report says that they are more positive about

both school and reading than they were last term. This may prove important in improving their reading in the long term.

Better literacy is one of the Government's key pledges on education. Ministers have set a target for 80 per cent of 11-year-olds to have reached the expected standard in English by the year 2002. The present figure is 62 per cent.

Anne Barnes, general secretary of the National Association for the Teaching of English, said: "You cannot necessarily expect progress to show up immediately in tests. If there is an improvement in attitude that may lead to improvement over a whole year."

The Government, she suggested, is confused. There might be an argument for providing a reading activity during the holidays but that would not necessarily lead to improved reading. Children progress best with teachers who knew them well, she added.

In August, Mr Blair promised another £4 million of Government money for summer literacy schools and Downing Street said that Maurice Hatter, chairman of IMO Precision Controls, would donate a further £1 million. Mr Hatter's donation was disclosed hours after Mr Blair appealed for private sector investment to match the Government's.

New regime for young offenders

Up to eight jails for criminals aged 15 to 17 are to be established as part of a new approach to dealing with juvenile offenders, under plans being drawn up by prison officials.

The Prison Service wants to separate about 2,600 juveniles under 18 years old from other offenders and set up special regimes in an attempt to divert them away from a life of crime.

The proposal was disclosed yesterday as the Chief Inspector of Prisons published a major study into young offenders aged under 22, which concluded that current the system was doing more harm than good and needed a radical overhaul.

Sir David Ramsbotham's report said: "More damage is done to immature adolescents than to any other type of prisoner by current conditions."

In a surprise response, Richard Tilt, director-general of the Prison Service, said his agency proposed to separate offenders aged 15, 16 and 17 and place them in about seven or eight dedicated establishments.

Offenders aged under 18 are currently locked up in Young Offenders Institutions (YOI) with others up to 22 years old and in a small number of cases adult prisons.

The new "juvenile jails" would probably be based at existing YOIs. They are likely to include special training programmes, education and greater emphasis on physical activities.

The creation of new regimes will cost an estimated £18m a year at a time when money is extraordinarily tight for prison systems and the number of inmates is rising.

Mr Tilt said he would present the proposals to ministers by the summer, but suggested more funding was likely to be needed.

Joyce Quin, Home Office minister, said they would be examined as part of a current review of the criminal justice system.

Yesterday's report said that a large proportion of those aged under 22 were locked into a cycle of reoffending, had a history of social service care, had taken drugs, and were victims of abuse.

It concluded: "Unless they [young offenders] receive individual attention and opportunities to change, their time in custody will make them worse rather than better."

— Jason Bennett
Crime Correspondent

DAILY POEM

Hand relief

by Kathleen Jamie

Whatever happened to friends like Liz, who curled her legs on a leather settee, and touched your knee, girl/girl, as she whispered what the businessmen of Edinburgh wear beneath their suits –

laughed and hooked her hair back saying Tuesday, giving some hlock hand relief, she'd looked up at the ceiling for the hundredth time that lunch-hour, and screaming, slammed the other hand down hard on the panic button; had to stand there topless in front of the bouncers and the furious puoter, saying sorry, I'm sorry, it was just a spider...

Whatever happens to girls like Liz fresh out of school, at noon on a Saturday waiting for her shift at Hotspots sauna, in a dressing gown with a pink printed bunny who follows you to the window as you look out at the city and calls you her pal. She says, you're a real pal.

Today's selection from the five poets who have won this year's Paul Hamlyn Foundation Awards for Artists comes from Kathleen Jamie's latest collection *The Queen of Sheba* (Bloodaxe, £6.95), which also won a Somerset Maugham Award.

The Link

BRITAIN'S BIGGEST CHOICE OF MOBILES

£500
CREDIT BARRIER
WITH ALL CELLNET
DIGITAL MOBILES



UP TO £20 OF FREE CALLS
EVERY MONTH FOREVER[†]
ON ALL CELLNET DIGITAL MOBILE PHONES

PLUS
CHOOSE FROM A RANGE OF OVER 40
MOBILE PHONES IN-STORE

The Link

Web site:
www.the-link.co.uk

*When you connect to a Cellnet Digital monthly tariff. Plus £25 for connection payable in-store. †Excludes customers upgrading from Cellnet Analogue. When you connect to Cellnet Cellstar Plus.

When you connect to Cellnet Digital. When you connect to the Cellnet Digital All-inclusive package. Saving compared to payment by normal monthly charge 10 x £75.00 + £25 for connection = £225.00.

*By redemption. Cheque/cheque value dependent on tariff and value of calls made over first 6 months. See in-store leaflet for full details. Connection to mobile phones is subject to status. A deposit may be required. Ask in-store for details.

Small fry launches big duel for the skies



British Airways' announcement that it will launch a low-cost carrier was hailed by some as 'welcome competition'. For other smaller, 'no-frills' airlines it is the start of a war, says Randeep Ramesh, Transport Correspondent.

For many airlines, BA's move has an uncomfortable ring about it. They believe that the world's most profitable airline is prepared to throw money at an enterprise in order to snatch market share from its low-cost rivals.

Stelios Haji-Ioannou, the Greek businessman who brought no-frills flying to Britain with easyJet, is a clear case of BA pinching his idea.

"BA wanted to buy 49 per cent of easyJet. BA said they could not proceed with the purchase because of management were unsure of getting regulatory approval. The one thing I hear is that they have photocopied our idea," said Mr Haji-Ioannou.

Many point out that BA has

a track record in "playing hard-ball". Sir Freddie Laker, the low-fare pioneer, started his Skytrain services to the US in the 1970s but it collapsed after cut-throat competition from the big carriers.

Years later he won a £5m settlement from BA and other airlines after his claims that big carriers caused the failure of his service in 1982.

When Richard Branson started Virgin Atlantic, it was targeted in a "dirty tricks" campaign by BA. The affair ended with it paying Mr Branson £1m in an out-of-court settlement.

For easyJet - the original low-cost carrier - nothing less than a full investigation by the European Commission competition authorities will suffice. "We have a dominant airline willing to lose unlimited sums of money competing with substantially smaller airlines that could be driven out in the process," read newspaper adverts in yesterday's papers.

The headline over the full page ad is entitled "Beauty and the Beast" and is illustrated with mugshots of BA's chief executive, Bob Ayling, and the manager of the new airline - codenamed Blue Sky - Barbara Cassani.

And the advert's wording pulls no punches. "It seems to us like a textbook case of abuse of dominant position under article 86 of the EC Treaty. We expect the EC to investigate this new cheap trick by BA and stop it ... Look at their track record. Laker, British Caledonian, Danair, Virgin, who is next? They were all either bought or nearly or actually driven out of business."

BA were not impressed.

"There's plenty of room for all of us," said a spokesman.

Many of Mr Haji-Ioannou's peers say this is typically explosive behaviour from the Greek businessman. Frank Pullman, who runs Luton airport - where easyJet flies from, says the local authorities - the owners of the airport - were threatened with legal action by Mr Haji-Ioannou when the airport's owners would not let him "buy" it.

"I think Stelios' first three calls are to his lawyers, his lawyers and his lawyers," said Mr Pullman.

BA were not impressed.

"There's plenty of room for all of us," said a spokesman.

Many point out that BA has



Duel for the skies: easyJet chief Stelios Haji-Ioannou and yesterday's anti-BA adverts

Photograph: Peter Macdiarmid

THE PRICES BA MUST MATCH

London Stansted to Cork £38 return with Ryanair

London Stansted to Oslo £99 return with Ryanair

London Luton to Munich £98 return with Debonair

London Luton to Barcelona £78 return with Easyjet

London Luton to Geneva £98 return with Easyjet

London to Paris £69 return with Eurostar

All tickets carry restrictions

ingredients, not that it "may" contain them, she said.

Up to 60 per cent of products on supermarket shelves will contain genetically-modified ingredients from the New Year.

Jeremy Laurence, Health Editor, explains how retailers' opposition to the new food technology has been circumvented.

Today sees the launch of a new exhibition at the Science Museum. Entitled "Future Foods" it will be opened by Tessa Jowell, the public health minister, and Jeff Rooker, agriculture minister, and predicts that consumers will soon be able to choose from potatoes that make low-fat chips, broccoli that helps prevent cancer and strawberries that last longer.

Genetically-modified soya, developed in the US, has been altered to make it resistant to a pesticide known as Roundup. This allows crops to be sprayed with Roundup at an early stage, killing weeds but without damaging the soya itself, increasing yields.

Some supermarkets have resisted the development because of consumer fears and because the benefits were all on the farmers' side. A spokeswoman for Asda said: "We have not stocked any foods made entirely of genetically-modified ingredients and we keep a list of foods guaranteed to be free of them. We are not against them provided they can be shown to have benefits for customers."

Professor Dick Flavell, director of the John Innes Centre in Norwich, said genetically-modified wheat and barley would soon follow soya and maize. "Unless there is a backlash on a large scale across Europe to make the US change the way it handles things it is going to be inevitable," he said.

"I personally am quite confident in the technology provided it is monitored on a case-by-case basis. We have always known that certain modifications, such as introducing a nut protein, could be hazardous [to those with a nut allergy]. Those who want the technology banned are undermining the position of the starving people in Ethiopia."

Whatever happens,
your pension
contributions
can match your
income.

If life gives you a bumpy ride, here's a
guarantee from us. Our pension plan won't.

You can alter your payments, up or down,
to suit your circumstances.* And if you
take a career break, you can also take a
penalty free break from your payments.

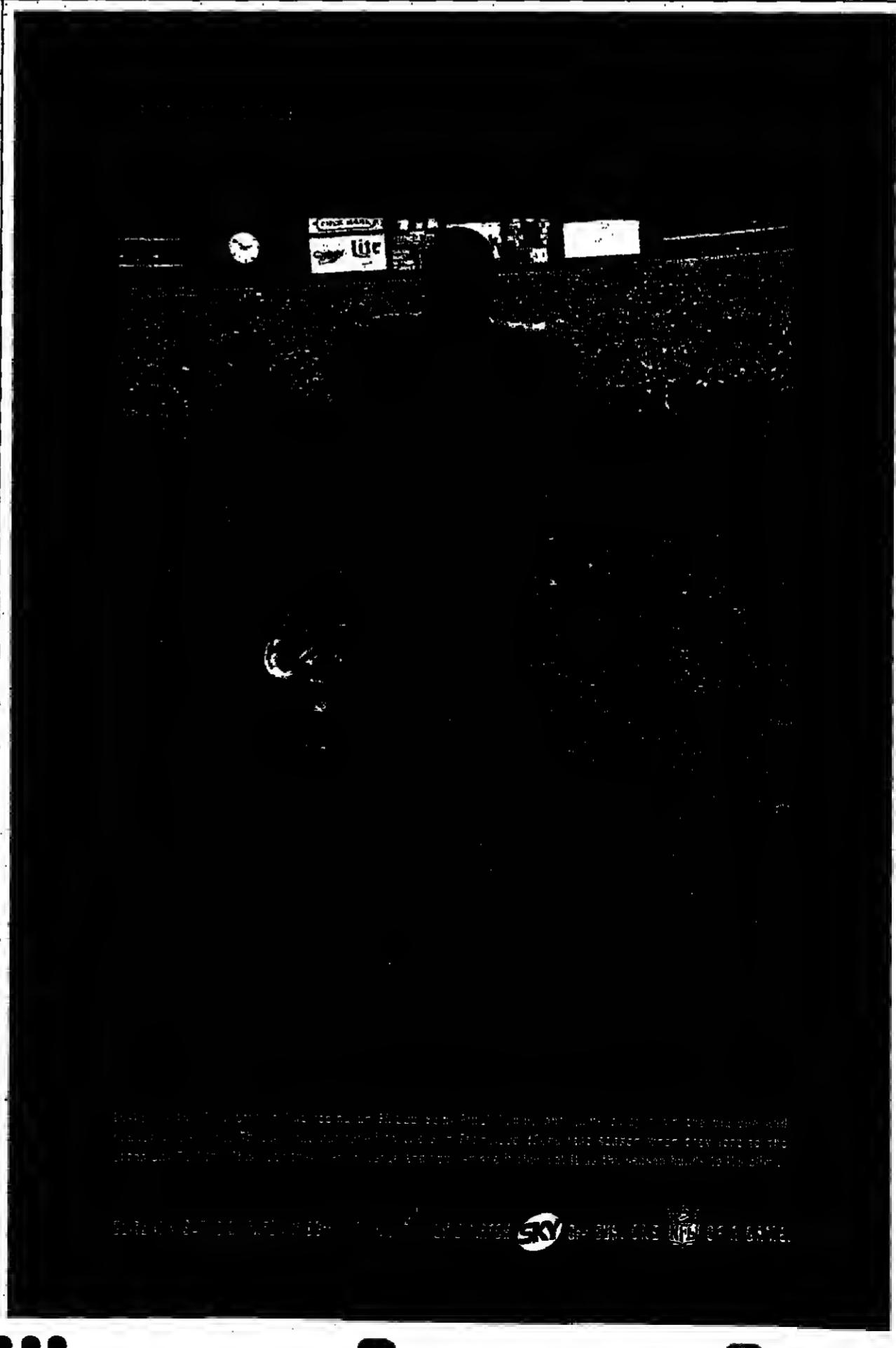
An unusually flexible answer to
life's ups and downs?

IF YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW MORE, TALK TO
YOUR INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL ADVISER.

SCOTTISH WIDOWS

Looking good for your pension

A Market Level Adjustment may apply to UWP units. The value of units can go down as well as up. Future bonus rates are not guaranteed.
*Payments are subject to a minimum, currently £30 per month gross. Further details of the benefits, charges and conditions of our personal pensions are given in the relevant product literature, available from us on request. Issued by Scottish Widows' Fund and Life Assurance Society, a mutual company. Registered by the Personal Investment Authority.



SCOTTISH WIDOWS FUND AND LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY LTD. REGISTERED NUMBER 110000. MEMBER OF THE PERSONAL INVESTMENT AUTHORITY. REGISTERED OFFICE: 100 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON W1A 2AA. TEL: 0181 580 1000. FAX: 0181 580 1010. E-MAIL: SCOTTISH.WIDOWS@PVA.GOV.UK. WEBSITE: WWW.SW.LTS. SKY 2000. THE SKY 2000 LOGO IS A TRADE MARK OF THE SKY 2000 GROUP. © 1997 SCOTTISH WIDOWS FUND AND LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY LTD.

Somalia faces floods disaster

Torrential rains have killed thousands of Somalis and trapped many more on islands in the flood. Marcus Tanner says any relief effort will be hamstrung by donor countries' fears of becoming entangled with the country's notorious warlords.



low sea-level and it is here that the two rivers have merged into a huge lake.

Somalis depend almost entirely for their livelihood on crops and livestock. The floods have swept away recently planted maize and a large proportion of the cattle.

After the waters recede, Somalis will face horrendous problems with contamination and diseases such as cholera, Mr Anticoni said.

An international appeal for

\$10m (26m) to support the relief operation has resulted in only \$5.6m so far, the United Nations Children's Fund said.

The country remains so unstable that many nations are reluctant to offer aid out of a justifiable fear that the relief will be simply kidnapped by the warring factions and used for the benefit of their militias, rather than civilians. Somalia has not even had a national government since the overthrow of Mohamed Siad Barre in 1991.

As a result of the collapse of Somalia's infrastructure, the aid effort is having to be co-ordinated in neighbouring Kenya.

Flood-stricken Somalia was facing disaster yesterday after the country's two main rivers burst their banks and joined together, creating vast flood plains and trapping thousands of people.

Western aid agencies in the country, which has been torn apart by clan warfare in the last few years, said several thousand may have died in the rains, while tens of thousands more were marooned.

"We are having to make our assessments from the air", said Paul Anticoni, a Red Cross officer involved in the relief effort said. "What we are seeing is huge tracts of land and huge

crowds on small islands. I hesitate to think what will happen to them. They are without shelter; some have a few sheep with them. We have seen people standing on roof tops which are collapsing. Our dilemma is whether to try to rescue people, or try to get food to them first. On top of that, the waters are still rising."

The Juba and Shabelle rivers flow from near the border with southern Ethiopia and western Ethiopia before merging just before the Indian ocean in the south of Somalia. Much of the land in this region is near or be-

ing.

One for the album: Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands holds on to her hat as her husband, Prince Claus (left) takes

snapshots of the Sphinx in Giza while on a sightseeing tour of the Sphinx and the Pyramids yesterday

Photograph: AFP

Egypt beefs up security

Egypt deployed more forces at tourist sites yesterday in the wake of the massacre of 58 tourists at Luxor. "This could happen anywhere in the world," President Hosni Mubarak said at Cairo airport after seeing off Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands at the end of her three-day visit to Egypt.

President Mubarak sacked his interior minister after publicly berating him for lapses that enabled Muslim militants to carry out their bloodiest attack since their armed campaign began in 1992.

The new interior minister, Habib el-Adli, replaced top officials at the ministry and security officials in Luxor on his first full day in office. "The area is full of tourists and you tell me the police are two kilometres away? This is a joke," showed Mr Mubarak saying at the temple on Tuesday as Mr Alfi stood by. Mr Mubarak has ordered the Prime Minister, Kamal Ganzouri, to head a special committee to draw up a "watertight plan" to ensure the safety of tourists.

Letters, page 26

— Reuters, Cairo



Dixons

UP TO 5 FREE CDs
ON ALL CD RADIO CASSETTES OVER £95
CHOOSE FROM OVER 200 TITLES

EXCLUSIVE

HITACHI STEREO RADIO CASSETTE £29.99

RADIO CASSETTES

MATSUI RTR203 RADIO CASSETTE £14.99

MATSUI KTR600 STEREO CASSETTE RECORDER WITH KARAOKE FEATURE £19.99

MORPHY RICHARDS RC240 RADIO CASSETTE £19.99

HITACHI TRK05 RADIO CASSETTE £24.99

PRICE CHECK
WE CAN'T BEAT IT!
Every week we check the prices of hundreds of products in the national press to make sure that Dixons Price Check prices can't be beaten!

3 WAYS TO BUY
300 STORES NATIONWIDE
WEB SITE: www.dixons.co.uk
24 HOUR ORDER HOTLINE
08000 68 28 68

Dixons
There's a Great Deal going on

CHOOSE FROM OVER 160 PORTABLE HI-FI SYSTEMS IN-STORE

CD RADIO CASSETTES

Amstrad MCD035 CD RADIO CASSETTE £59.99

SANYO MCDZ100 CD RADIO CASSETTE £69.99

HITACHI CX10 CD RADIO CASSETTE £79.99

SANYO MCDZ250 CD RADIO CASSETTE £99.99

PHILIPS AZ2267 CD RADIO CASSETTE £129.99

AIWA NSX52 PORTABLE HI-FI £169.99

JVC RQW1500 CD RADIO CASSETTE £169.99

Dixons

Film studio bomb kills 23 in India

At least 23 people died in a car bomb blast near a film studio in the southern Indian city of Hyderabad yesterday, police said.

About 35 people were also wounded when the bomb, which had been planted in a parked jeep, exploded at midday as a convoy of cars arrived for the first shot of a new film.

"Twenty-three people have died so far", said HJ Dora, director general of police in Hyderabad. "We have to find out how it was triggered. But the impact of the blast was very high. Many buildings have been affected."

The interior minister of the state of Andhra Pradesh, A Madhava Reddy, said the bomb was set off by remote control. The injured included the screen actor Mohanbabu, who is also a member of the upper house of parliament, and the MP Paritala Ravi. Officials said their injuries were not life-threatening.

Police said nobody had claimed responsibility for the bomb, and there was no immediate reaction from political groups in the Indian capital.

The dead included a five-member crew from the television station E-TV, whose car bore the brunt of the blast as it led the convoy. Four vehicles were hit by the explosion.

The state chief minister, N Chandrababu Naidu, who was in New Delhi, said that investigations were being carried out, but that it was too early to draw any conclusions.

Andhra Pradesh state, of which Hyderabad is the capital, has been shaken by a violent campaign by outlawed Maoist insurgents. Seven policemen died and six were wounded on Monday in a landmine explosion about 140 miles north of Hyderabad in the fourth such attack in the past two years.

— Reuters, Hyderabad

Netanyahu returns home to confront party mutineers

The Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, returned home from a trip to the US and Britain to mount a counter-offensive against rebellious leaders in his ruling Likud party bent on driving him from power. They urged that he be deposed after a party convention last week rescinded primary elections to choose parliamentary candidates.

A Netanyahu aide, David Bar-Ilan, said the mutiny posed "no threat" to his leadership but the feud was expected to make his premiership vulnerable as he faces struggles over the budget and on issues related to the peace process.

— Reuters, Jerusalem

Mass-murder suspect held

A man sought in a killing spree in Taiwan surrendered to police after releasing the last of five South African family members he had held hostage. Chen Chin-hsing released Anne Alexander, the wife of the South African defence attaché, and was whisked away in a police motorcade.

The police had hunted Mr Chen for six months for his alleged role in the kidnapping and murder of a television star's teenage daughter and the murder of a plastic surgeon and two nurses.

— AP, Taipei

Congratulations.
You've just
spotted a low cost
personal loan.

EXAMPLE LOANS OVER 12 MONTHS WITHOUT REPAYMENT PROTECTION			
AMOUNT OF LOAN	APR%	24 MONTHLY REPAYMENTS	TOTAL PAYABLE
£1,000	13.9%	£101.33	£1,647.82
£4,000	12.4%	£199.46	£1,673.04

Lines correct at 10 November 1997.
0181 680 9966 0161 831 9966 0141 248 9966
LONDON MANCHESTER GLASGOW
CALL ANYTIME 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 5pm Saturday.
www.dixonsline.co.uk
Please quote ref. IND18

Dixons Financial Services Limited, 250 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow, G2 5SA.
You must be aged 22 or over. Loans from £1,000 to £15,000, subject to status.
Written quotations on request. Calls may be recorded. Dixons and the red phone
are trademarks of Direct Line Insurance plc, used with its permission.

13/TECHNOLOGY

Time ticks by for millennium bug tsar

One man, one day a week is Don Cruickshank serious about getting British business to take action against the 'Millennium Bug' that will affect computers after December 31 1999? Charles Arthur, Science Editor, discovered that he is – and that he expects things to get worse before they get better.

What should we expect from the run-up to 2000? Computer cowboys who will rip companies off while doing a shoddy job of reprogramming their systems, says Don Cruickshank, the man appointed by the Government to ginger business people into taking the problem seriously.

The trouble is, some businesses aren't yet aware of the problems they face. And computer cowboys are only the beginning.

"That's so certain, it's one of the first statements you can make. Prices [of skilled staff] will go up, which will attract – um – marginal players into the game. And the later you are, the bigger the problem you have. It's like having a leak and calling out an emergency plumber. You're completely in their hands."

Then again, Mr Cruickshank's job as head of Actio 2000 sounds, initially, like a wooden sledge. He will work on it for only one day a week. But surely he will carry the can if – or, more truthfully, when – things go wrong after the clocks ring out 31 December 1999. Perhaps the sledge is a poisoned chalice?

"Ah, well," he says with a smile. "That's public life."

But Mr Cruickshank, presently head of the telecoms regulator Ofcom, doesn't think that his post should be one requiring a Batman and an underground cave with a high-speed car. He isn't going to solve problems; he's going to make businesses aware that they face them.

Not Batman, then, solving the troubles of computing's Gotham City? "Afraid not," he told *The Independent*, in one of his first interviews since becoming the UK's bug tsar. "There isn't going to be one of those."

Instead, Actio 2000 will probably set up a Web site offering advice and "best practice" for approaching the problem. Not



Don Cruickshank: 'Businesses are like swans. Sailing serenely along on the surface, but underneath they're paddling like hell'

Photograph: Roi Xavier

Batman, but the Batman Helpline.

The point about the Millennium Bug is that it is not only of interest to computer nerds, or PC owners, or people who work on computers. Because chips are so ubiquitous, any flaws will affect hundreds of citizens who thought they never touched a computer.

The problem arises because many chips and programs store the year as a two-digit number. After 1999, that number will for the first time decrease instead of increasing when the clock ticks over. The computer may decide either that the date is 1900, or that a serious error has occurred and that it should shut down.

Nobody knows what the result will be.

Timelock safes might not open. Trains might sail past red signal lights. Automated hospital drips could shut down. Lifts could freeze. Supermarket fridges might cut off, leaving food to spoil over the New Year weekend (starting on Saturday, 1 January 2000).

In fact he thinks that many business people are adopting a deceptive approach to their 2000 efforts. "It puzzled me at first. They will admit things in private about the problems they're having which they absolutely won't in public. I think they're attempting to be like swans. Sailing serenely along on the surface, but underneath they're paddling like hell. There's a lot of that going on."

● The introduction of the European currency should be delayed because of massive computer problems due to hit at the millennium, a committee of MPs was told last night.

Robin Guenier, executive director of the Taskforce 2000 group set up to pre-empt the bug, said 40,000 medium-sized and large businesses had not yet even begun to address the problem. The majority of computers on sale now were likely to fail at midnight on 31 December 1999.

The computer industry had a "dreadful" record of missing deadlines, he said, with 80 per cent of projects ending late, he told the Commons science and technology committee.

"The single most evident reason for postponing the Euro is that the year 2,000 problem is happening at the same time. We are doing the largest IT job we have ever done and the second largest," he said.

While some sectors were way ahead – almost every City solicitors had a partner working on the legal implications, for example – others had barely recognised the enormity of the problem.

A recent survey had suggested that only 10 per cent of businesses had carried out an audit of their systems; 57 per cent planned to do nothing until 1999 – far too late – and while 80 per cent planned to do the necessary work in house less than half had the staff to do it.

Class dispute hits Islington 'cyberstreet'

Microsoft has been accused of discriminating against council tenants in favour of white middle-class residents in the creation of its "cyberstreet" in Islington, north London. The result would be to create a division between cyber-haves and have-nots – determined by who already has the equipment.

Robyn Heaton, who lives on the street, yesterday said the experiment, in which 30 people were given telephone connections and subscriptions to the Internet via Microsoft, and in some cases free computers, was invalid because it did not represent the diversity of people in the street. "I'm a council tenant, and when they sent the letters around in February, I didn't get one. But I was really excited, so I rang up and they said they wanted a diverse street. But the all they asked was my name, and said that they were overwhelmed with responses."

She said that when she asked other council tenants and housing-association residents, she found they had not been invited to take part either.

Judy Gibbons, head of the Microsoft Network, said Microsoft had sent letters to all 80 homes in the street and received 34 replies. There were 30 places on the scheme and 15 people who already had computers were automatically accepted. "The only basis for the other selection was picking names out of a hat," she said.

The experiment began in March and was recently extended from six months to a year.

Ms Heaton said the experiment cannot be a valid measure of what the wider population will want from computers and the Internet – Microsoft's declared aim from the cyberstreet trial – because it was biased towards people who already had a computer, and against council tenants.

The cost of the technology – up to £1,000 for a computer – represents a barrier that many lower-paid people find insurmountable. But Fred Eagle, a council tenant, yesterday said his family was taking part in the trial, and that some middle-class people were not included.

– Charles Arthur, Science Editor

lenders don't want you

Of course you're pleased as punch to have got your mortgage organised. Now you can go ahead and buy the flat or house you want. Your mind is full of things like removals, getting the telephone and electricity laid on for when you arrive and remembering not to pack the kettle and tea bags at the bottom of a case.

THE SMALL MATTER OF PROTECTION

You know you have to take out life cover to pay off your mortgage should you die. Everyone does. After everything you've been through over the last few weeks sorting this out is probably not the first thing on your mind. Who would blame you for just taking out the life cover offered to you by your mortgage lender?

Stop. Halt. Whoa. Hold your horses.

If you do this, over the lifetime of your mortgage, it may cost you thousands of pounds you needn't have spent.

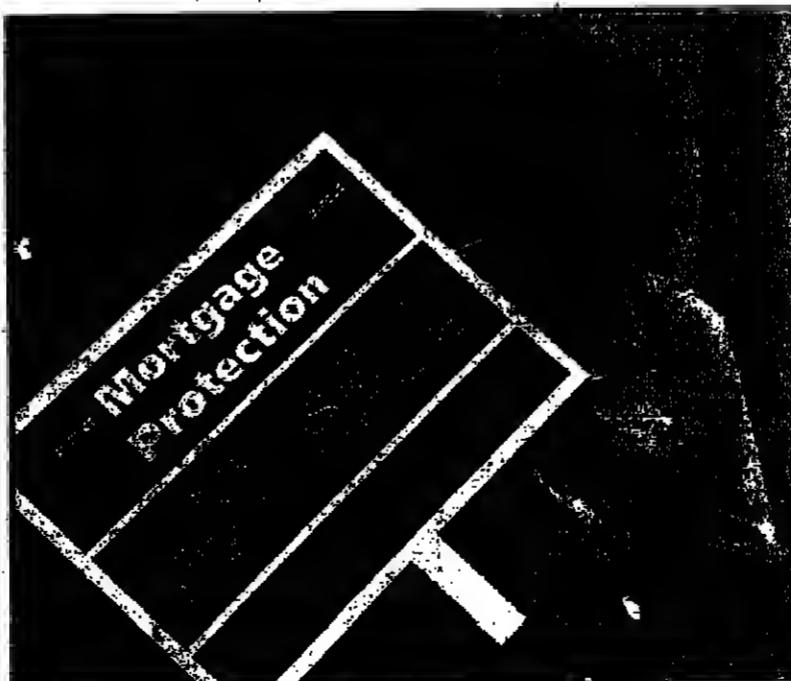
THE SECRET THAT CAN SAVE THOUSANDS

A little known fact that most mortgage lenders would rather their customers didn't know is this: you don't have to buy your life cover from the same company that provides your mortgage.

You may think you do, but you don't.

You are entitled to buy your life insurance from any company. In fact, if you shop around, you're likely to find that you can save yourself quite a lot of money!

Check the table to see how much even a small monthly saving can add up over the years.



NOT SO CHEAP, 'CHEAP' MORTGAGES

Once you know this, it's easy to see what's been subsidising 'low-cost' mortgages! The Virgin Direct Repayment Mortgage Protector is among the cheapest life cover on the market. We don't employ salesmen or pay commissions.

We won't hold up your mortgage because arranging our life insurance is so easy you can probably do it in the next ten minutes by simply picking up the phone.

Call us and see how much a ten minute call could save you.

	monthly premium	total premium
VIRGIN DIRECT	£5.00	£1,800.00
ABBEY NATIONAL	£7.65	£2,295.00
ALLIANCE & LEONSTEIN	£8.05	£2,415.00
WIGGINS	£8.71	£2,552.25

Virgin
direct
personal financial service

0345 900 900

Open seven days a week from 8am to 10pm

"At B&Q you can be sure that the wood for doors like this one comes from well-managed forests."

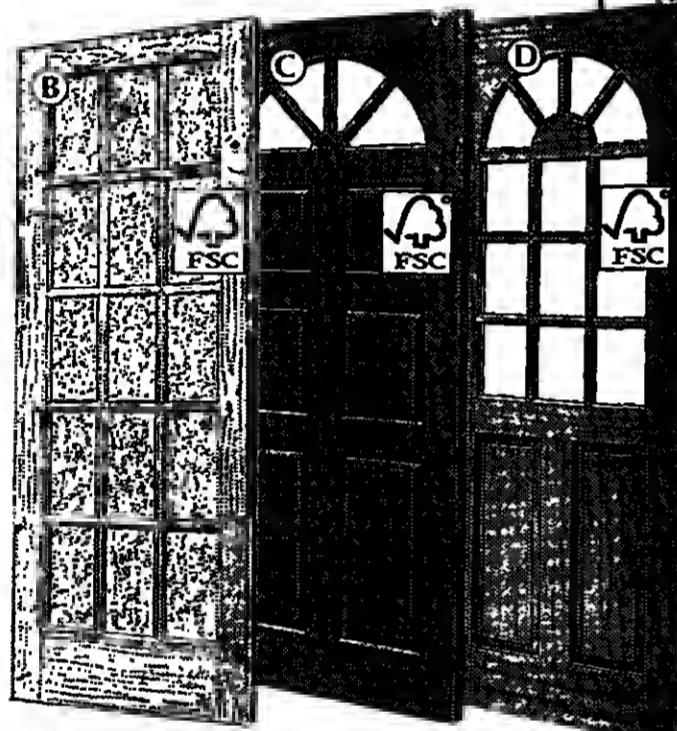
Forest protection is a key environmental priority and one to which as buyers of timber, we at B&Q and *you* can make an important contribution. We can all choose to buy timber from well-managed forests and the most effective way to do this is to only buy timber which has been certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (the FSC).

It is our target that by the end of 1999 we will only buy wood and wood based products which have been certified by the FSC. This advertisement gives you the reasons why.

What do we mean by well managed?

To be well managed a forest must have strict management plans in place which consider the protection of habitats, meet the needs of the people who depend on the forests and ensure a continuous yield of timber. The challenge is reassuring ourselves that these plans are relevant for the particular forest and are being fully implemented. It is impossible for B&Q to visit all the forests where its wood originates (At B&Q our wood comes from over 40 countries and 400 forest regions).

For over seven years B&Q has been investing considerable resources into resolving this dilemma. Why? Because we know that our customers would not want to buy products which cause unnecessary harm to the environment.



- (A) Colonial 6 Panel Knotty Interior Pine Door 78 x 30 x 1 1/4ins.
- (B) SA Obscured Knotty Pine Glazed Door 78 x 30 x 1 1/4ins.
- (C) Carolina Stained Hardwood Exterior Door 78 x 33 x 1 1/4ins.
- (D) Kentucky Stained Hardwood Exterior Door 78 x 33 x 1 1/4ins.

Action over past seven years

Between October 1990 and October 1991 extensive surveys of our existing supply base were undertaken, involving hundreds of visits and instructions were sent to all our suppliers to stop making claims of sustainability on their packaging which could not be proved. We looked for partners with whom we could work. The World Wide Fund for Nature (UK) was willing to help us resolve the problem.

We both recognised that a simple boycott of tropical timber was not the answer since it was unfair on the tropical producers and would not address the issue of poor forestry in non-tropical countries.

In September 1991 B&Q set the following targets - by the end of 1993 to only buy timber from suppliers who could identify the source forest region and by the end of 1995 to only buy timber which was, according to our own judgement, from well-managed forests. At the time our stance was controversial, attracting criticism from both the environmental movement (who still believed we should boycott tropical timber) and industry.

Recognising that our own judgement would not be sufficient in the long term, we had earlier joined a group called the Forest Stewardship Council which was already discussing the concept of independent certification of forests and timber products. Before long we became active players to



Dr. Alan Knight
Environmental Policy Controller

You are part of the supply chain

You, along with the producers, suppliers and us the retailer, are part of what we call the supply chain. When you see products with the FSC trade mark you know you can buy products which come from forests which are well managed. So you too can make a difference.



Laminated Preboard
Ideal for wall units, shelves, table tops and fitted furniture. Available in various sizes.



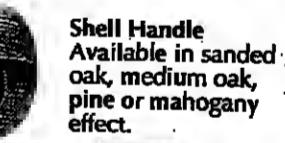
Pine Closed Louvre Doors
Louvre doors are ideal for cupboards or wardrobes. Available in various sizes.



Parkiflex Solid Hardwood Flooring 'Parawood'. Pack of 3 panels. Covers 0.68sqm.



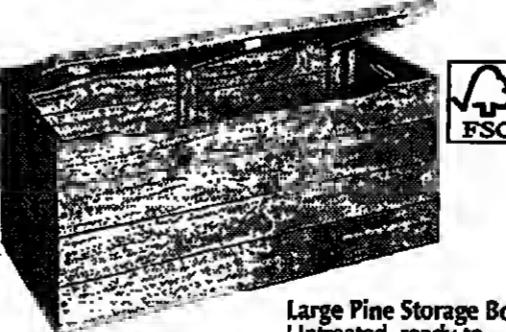
Timbertile Solid Hardwood Flooring 'Rhodesian Teak'. Pack of 3 panels. Covers 0.68sqm.



Shell Handle
Available in sanded oak, medium oak, pine or mahogany effect. Pack of 2.



Each of our buyers receives monthly reports which summarise the progress in their product range and the commitment of their suppliers. There are still many political and practical hurdles to cross before we achieve our target but the momentum with individual suppliers and relevant organisations in many countries across the world gives us the confidence that we can succeed.



Large Pine Storage Box
Untreated, ready to assemble.
800 x 385 x 385mm.

A big thanks to our suppliers

Finally B&Q would like to thank all our suppliers and their suppliers for the efforts they have made to achieve our targets (in particular those who have already achieved FSC certification and those close to it).

We would also like to acknowledge the special achievements of: Premium Timber, Chindwell & Co, Rectella, Charter Aldred, Douglas Kane, Alpine Trading, Western Cork, Bioregional Development Group, Charbriol and Mosley Stone. We know that our success is largely down to their efforts. We also acknowledge the efforts made by many others who are not suppliers (WWF) and look forward to the final push to get all our timber products sustainable.

Offers may vary at B&Q Warehouses and B&Q Depots. Sizes shown are approximate. Products subject to availability, please phone to check availability. WWF-UK is a registered charity number 201707.

B&Q

Reporting on our impact on the environment.

Just in time

15/SOUTH AFRICA

Apartheid's priests don sackcloth and seek forgiveness

The Dutch Reformed Church, once a pillar of apartheid, executed a remarkable about-turn yesterday when it appeared before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. But its confessions about a shameful past may not have gone far enough.

For months it wriggled and twisted, but yesterday the Dutch Reformed Church which provided a theological basis for apartheid, stood before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and confessed its sins.

Afrikanerdom's largest church said the stillily-white denomination felt guilty for "spiritual and structural injustices". Offering an apology to "the people", the Rev Freli Swaneepoel, the Nederduits Gereformeerde Kerk (Dutch Reformed Church) leader, said: "We confess that great wrongs

BY MARY
BRAID

have been done." Despite the hugs for Mr Swaneepoel from Archbishop Desmond Tutu, TRC chairman, the apology was grudgingly made, and, with schism threatening the NGK, carefully worded. Three weeks ago the church, which with 1.3 million members represents 60 per cent of the Afrikaner population, was sticking by a pledge not to testify. The decision was reversed at an emotional gathering in Pretoria.

The "baas's church" and the Broederbond (a secretive, scurrilous association) were the two pillars of Afrikaner supremacy; the church said it had previously confessed its guilt over apartheid and racism reason to appear before the commission, because the it had never been an "accomplice" in serious rights violations.

To its critics, that proved the NGK had missed the point. Without its biblical support for apartheid and its lobbying for racist legislation the system

the UN declared a crime against humanity might have crumbled sooner. Instead, the local NGK clergymen was always on hand to reassure the conscious-stricken army conscript or the uneasy congregation that apartheid had been authorised by God.

Mr Swaneepoel was walking a tightrope yesterday, struggling to keep the church's hardliners and liberals on board.

Last year these internal divisions became apparent when the church's Stellenbosch presbytery defied the leadership and offered its own apology to the TRC, the body charged with exposing the truth about South Africa's brutal past.

The Stellenbosch group acknowledged they had turned a blind eye to the plight of millions of South Africans by failing to speak out against apartheid sooner.

It was only in the 1980s that the NGK began to distance itself from the racist system, but its abandonment of the old ideology has been far from clear.

A few months after the Stellenbosch confession, the NGK published a document in which it admitted it "had not always heard the word of God correctly" and had been so concerned with Afrikaner survival that it ignored the miserable existence of the masses.

That did not calm internal disputes. In a church once described the National Party at prayer, some of the most respected theologians still insist there is nothing in the Bible that renders apartheid a sin.

Mr Swaneepoel probably disappointed the hardliners yesterday. His submission, which focused on reconciliation rather than how church teaching underpinned apartheid, also failed to please NGK reformers.

"We think the church has missed a glorious opportunity," said Afrikaner lecturer Berne van der Walt. "Our church caused suffering through the discriminatory system and would like to make every possible move to repair the damage." The NGK remains racially divided. The Afrikaner core has yet to unite with the separate chapters into which it once herded black and Coloured members. On Tuesday a group within the NGK family urged

the TRC to investigate links between the Broederbond and NGK.

The NGK contribution to reconciling came at the end of three days of "faith" hearings. All week clergy from the other denominations lined up to confess and expose.

Faried Esack, a Muslim theologian, attacked Muslim leaders for betraying and marginalising the anti-apartheid struggle and South Africa's Chief Rabbi, Cyril Harris, said: "The Jewish community benefited from apartheid and an apology must be given ... We ask for forgiveness."



Members of a Dutch Reformed Church congregation in the conservative town of Dullstroom, 120 miles east of Pretoria

Photograph: Magnum

HOW TO AVOID A PENALTY



Who does Self Assessment affect?

Self Assessment affects everyone who receives a tax return, including the self employed, company directors, business partners and people with more complicated tax affairs. If you received a tax return this year and you haven't filled it in yet, you must do so. It won't 'go away'.

How do I know how much tax to pay?

If you do not receive a calculation from your tax office saying how much tax you owe, you must do your own tax calculation based on the figures in your return. The Tax Calculation Guide which came with your tax return will show you how to do this.

Why is January 31st important?

We must have received your completed tax return and tax payment by 31st January 1998 at the latest. If you do not meet the deadline there is an automatic £100 penalty and you will have to pay interest on any tax you owe. And if you have not paid by 28th February you will have to pay a 5% surcharge on top of the tax and interest.

How can I get help?

If you employ a tax adviser, get in touch. Alternatively, contact your tax office. The phone number is at the top of your tax return. If you can't get through, or it is outside normal office hours, the Self Assessment Helpline is open on 0645 000 444.*

Thinking of
setting up your
own business?

Get the facts you need
FREE from
Lloyds Bank

It takes courage to start your own business, but you can feel more sure of success if you get information and support from Lloyds Bank.

Take your first step today - call us, and we'll send you a free copy of the Penguin Small Business Guide (usual retail price £12). This highly-acclaimed handbook to starting and running a business has already sold over 65,000 copies.



Call now for free facts and figures. Lloyds Bank, 71 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3DS. Tel: 0800 000 100. Fax: 0800 000 101. Email: smallbusiness@lloyds.com. Web: www.lloyds.com. *From a recent survey of UK firms by the Forum of Private Business, September 1996.



Lloyds Bank Plc, 71 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3DS

**Vital
information
to help you deliver
a first class tax return**



Minimalists do it on tap and don't mop up afterwards

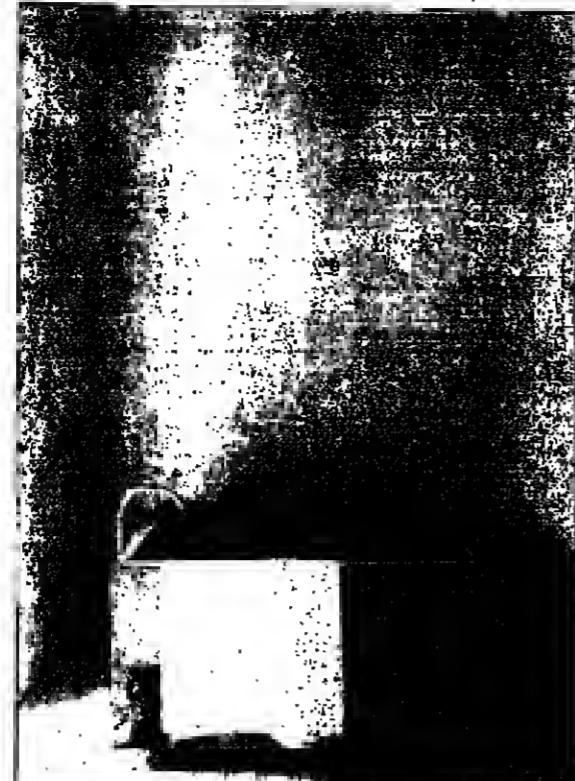
John Pawson is not just a minimalist; he's the biggest minimalist around, and he's got one of the biggest baths. And what does he think about in his bath? He thinks about future bathrooms. If you go to Birmingham and put on virtual reality glasses, you can see what he has in mind. Nonie Niesewand mops up.

People think that minimalism is the equivalent of sensory deprivation. All that emptiness. No beer mats, beaded curtains, soft sofas or toys, squiggy cushions, lava lamps or ashtrays. Everything behind closed doors. Minimalists at home always get asked if they've just moved in, even when they have inhabited their cool white cell for years.

Minimalists love fine details: shadow gaps etched into walls as a fine line instead of skirting boards; plaster as smooth as silk; a pale palette; doors floor-to-ceiling height that click shut as silently as a car door, probably running on the same technology; designer pieces that say "Art". Understatement, but loads of light and space and warmth. They hide their sensuality behind hard exteriors. But don't imagine they give themselves a hard time. They do not, and nowhere does their quest for luxury in plain wrapping show as in the bathroom.

Here we see John Pawson, minimalist-in-chief, in his Notting Hill Gate house (now sold), luxuriating in the bath with wife and children as few of us could (ouch! those taps; ouch! that overflow). His marble tub has no discomforts: it conceals a glass-fibre tilted tray so that when four people climb into it, and when the water goes over the side, it falls through chinks in the floor to run into the gutters. It is a fabulous bathroom, but really only a prototype for Pawson bathrooms to come.

From Sunday, you can visit a bathroom Pawson has designed for the year 2020, a place so minimal that it doesn't exist in real time. Yet you can see it at Interbuild in Birming-



John Pawson's cedarwood tub in Hester van Royen's apartment, London 1986



The Doris washbasin, carved from a block of white Carrara marble, was designed for Doris Saatchi

ham and experience bathing in it, fully dressed on the bare stand, wearing a virtual reality helmet. First you enter this seamless stone box, three metres by two metres, through a gap carved in a block of stone, maybe from a meteorite since it's the year 2020. The bath is a plunge pool in the stone floor. A bench lines the windowless wall and the basin carved out of the bench at 40cm height means that you can stand at it, or sit down next to it to splash about. Just water

and stone - at first glance it could have been designed for Fred Flintstone.

But fear not. Behind every minimalist there is a master technician. It may look austere monastic but hidden details make bathing a luxurious experience. Showers tumble from an open sky. The retractable glass roof opens on a fine day, and solar-warmed water falls apparently from the sky rather than from the cunningly hidden plumbing and rainwater tanks on the roof.

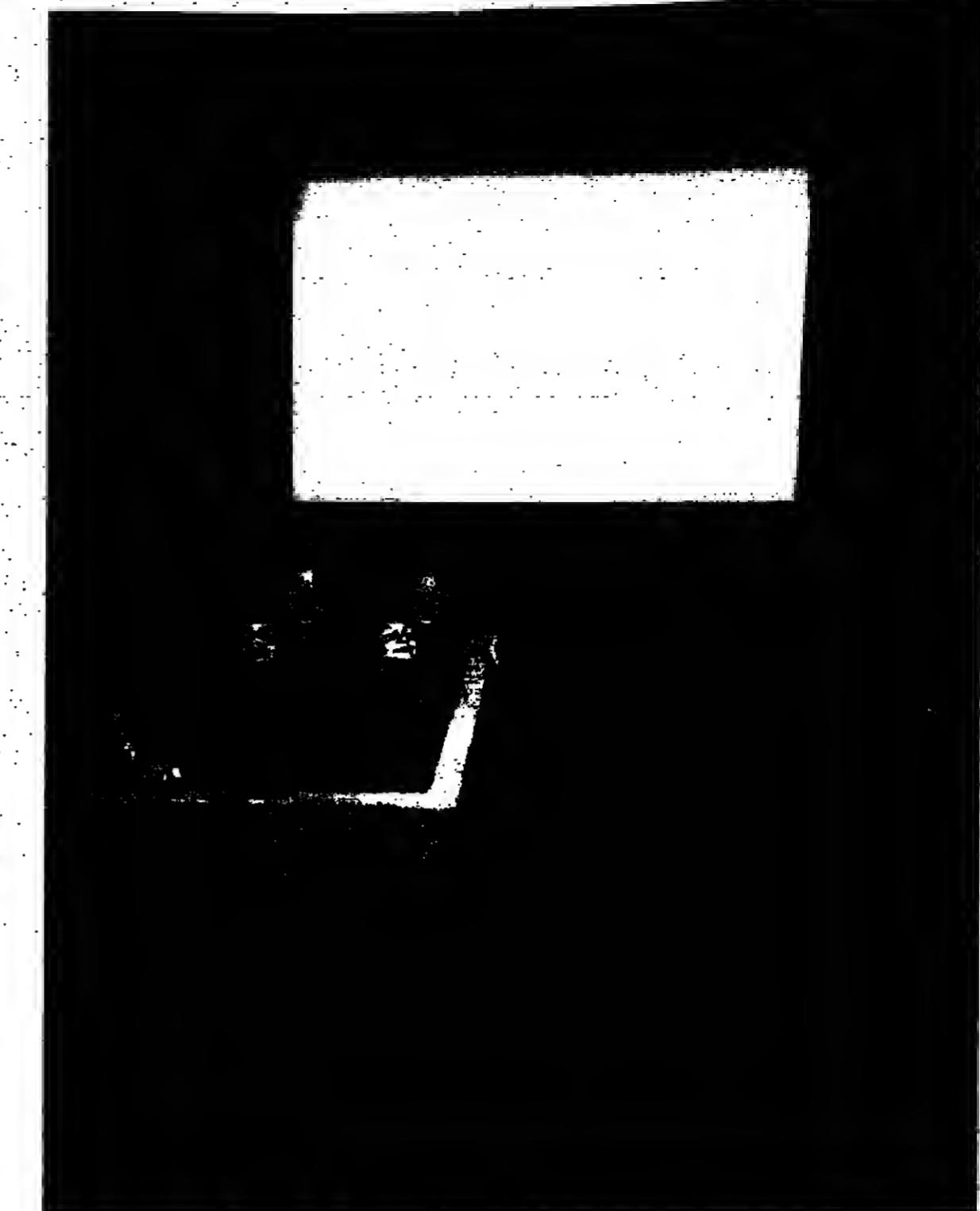
Pawson's inspiration was a 16th-century Mogul garden in Kashmir built by Shah Jahan, architect of the Taj Mahal; as well as the waterfall of "Eternal Tears", a piece of hydraulic engineering that resolves itself as a perpetual waterfall.

Basins fill without taps, activated by voice control. Copper pipes under the floor beam up fragrant steam through slits in the slotted stone floor, based on the hammams of north Africa, totally hermetic spaces with a tiny door into which ovens pump steam "and inhabitants escape the cares of the street". It is a lot more energy efficient to use water to heat space rather than air - air conditioning and air heating are hugely wasteful, but simple, responsive plumbing can heat the stone floors as well as pump steam through them.

"My design treats water as a precious commodity, which it will be by then," says John Pawson. It also treats bathing as a ritual, the way that he discovered hot-tub bathing in Japan, where he worked in his twenties. So there are no intrusive taps: valves are voice operated, temperature requirements for different bathers are controlled by hidden computer software and plugs are little swivelling buttons that you press and the air comes whooshing out to seal it tight, the way the Renault 4 pioneered a rudimentary air ventilation system with a rubber button on the dashboard as big as a 10p piece.

"As usual with John's designs, when you start thinking about how to do it, it's difficult to achieve," says Jonnie Bell, the architect's partner. Pawson is the architect who agonises over light switches lest they interrupt the flow of space in a wall, the author of a plump book called *Minimum*, which he packaged in a plain white cover with its title delicately embossed white on white, and whose favourite holiday destination is the desert.

Years ago when John Pawson and I travelled to his hometown, Halifax in Yorkshire, he visibly relaxed past the Watford Gap: "Trees clutter the landscape," he said, though oow that be is landscaping gardens to Provence and Long Island with



Want to save water? Bathe en famille: John and Catherine Pawson luxuriate in the deceptively simple deep-soak bath with young Benedict and Caius. The hard surfaces hide a lot of technology. Photograph: Cindy Palmano

Jonnie Bell, he doesn't like to be reminded of it. But the trees he likes are often es- paliced or pleached.

As you lie in the bath, still with your virtual reality helmet on, there is a view of the trees outside through a long, glazed, horizontal slit. The clear glass turns opaque when your voice activates its molecular coating, causing them to jiggle out of alignment and cloud the glass. The technology already exists for this glass but at present it has to be activated by an elec-

trical impulse which is why it's called electro-chromic glass.

In the bathroom of 2020 the water drains through the steam slots in the stone floor to be recycled in a reed-bed in the courtyard, cleansed and returned to the water-table. This piece of eco-chic borrowed from the Marsh Arabs is pioneered by the Centre for Alternative Technology (CAT) in Wales (01654 702400).

You can take this time-warp journey to the past and into the future on the virtual reality pro-

gramme designed by Gareth Lane and David Barker of Division Ltd. On stand number 1,830 at Interbuild you will be able to walk into the non-existent bathroom, sit on the bench, or step down the stairs into the bath. By pressing a button on the keyboard, you can fill the basin, empty it, switch on lights and adjust spots, make the glass change from clear to opaque, open and close the skylight, and simulate the shower coming on and off. The reed-bed in the garden correspond-

ingly fills at the changes in water levels within. The designers of the virtual reality programme thought the bathroom was "a bit bland really", so they put in a towel and a couple of cans of deodorant, "things to pick up and play with if you want", and at a key press, let you change the surfaces from the rock specified to sandstone, pink marble or granite.

Interbuild, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham (01203 426 508) from Sunday to 28 Nov.

There is a

DILEMMA

Barbara is 24 and doing her mother's favours doing errands, entertaining clients, her reward's been an egg-timer. Now her father-in-law's asking for advice on when to give her his only grandchild - who because she's a little bit of a support, she thinks she's being generous.

LONGINES
L'ELEGANCE DU TEMPS DEPUIS 1832

Conquest VHF
PERPETUAL CALENDAR
WATER RESISTANT TO
100 METRES.

LONGINES WATCHES AVAILABLE FROM LEADING JEWELLERS.
FOR A CATALOGUE PLEASE TELEPHONE 01628 53977

National Architecture Week begins today...

An Arts Council and Royal British Institute of Architects initiative, of over 150 events, will take place around the country.

Nationwide: For list of practices opening their offices ring Architectural Week Hotline (0171-490 5969); call Architect in the House (0845 603 8508) to consult one of the 1,200 architectural practices taking part to suggest ways in which householders can improve their homes, for a fee of £10 donated to Shelter; BBC Radio 3 *Designs for Living*, 9.30pm, 24-28 Nov, visits 20th-century houses.

Eastern: Exhibition of work by RIBA Eastern Region 20-30 Nov, Architecture Gallery, 6, King's Parade, Cambridge; Collection of award-winning contemporary buildings in "Campus Trail & Talk" at Sainsbury Centre, University of East Anglia, 20-27 Nov (closed Mon).

London: Prince of Wales Institute of Architecture Open Day, 29 Nov, 10am-4pm at 14 Gloucester Gate, London NW1; Sir STARchitect Talks (pre-booking essential): 1. Reflections of Soane at the Soane Museum, Lincoln Inn Fields - Charles Jencks, 20 Nov midday; Edward Cullinan, 25 Nov 6.30pm; Richard MacCormac, 26 Nov 6.30pm (0171-405 2107); 2. Zaha Hadid, 25 Nov 6.30pm, at the AA Bedford Square, WC1 (0171-887 4039); 3. Jonathan Meades, 26 Nov 6.30pm at the Sainsbury Wing, National Gallery, Trafalgar

Square (0171-916 7380); 4. Piers Gough, 26 Nov 2pm, for secondary school children, at RIBA, Portland Place (0171-580 5533); 5. The Modern House Series at the Gallery, 70 Cowcross Street, EC1 (0171-250 3857) - Jeremy Gould "The modern house 1919-39"; 26 Nov 6.30pm; Michael Manser "The modern post-war house"; 27 Nov 6.30pm; 6. Jasper Morrison, 25 Nov 6.30pm, RIBA, Portland Place (0171-251 0791).

Northern: Public debate on Baltic Flour Mills, 26 Nov 6.30pm (booking essential: Anna Pepperal, Gateshead Council 0191-477 3478).

North West: Three STARchitect talks - booking essential: Adrian Williams of Richard Rogers Partnership, 20 Nov 7.30pm in Preston (0161-973 1509); (0151-709 8832) for Jonathan Falkingham of Urban Splash 24 Nov 5.30pm-6.30pm; William Alsop 25 Nov 6.30pm.

West Midlands: STARchitect talk Terry Farrell 24 Nov 6.30pm at Newman Tunks Design Centre, Birmingham Business Park (0121-717 7777); Interbuild at NEC Birmingham 23-28 Nov 9.30am-6pm.

Yorkshire & Humberside: STARchitect talk Nigel Coates 26 Nov 6.30pm, Showroom Cinema, Sheffield (0114-275 7727); "Architecture on the Move" mobile multi-media event 20-27 Nov for locations around Sheffield (Prue Chiles on 0114-268 4282).

Southern: STARchitect talks Adrian Gibson and Robert Kilo at Herford Castle, 26 Nov 7 pm (01707-875 253); "Learning Spaces" at Merton University, Milton Keynes explores virtual and real space, 20-27 Nov, £45 (01908 695 511).

Scotland: Symposium on the New Scottish Parliament, 28 Nov 28 10am-5pm, 29 Nov 10am-1pm at the Matthew Architecture Gallery, Edinburgh (Clive Albert on 0131-650 2306); two Glasgow STARchitect talks (booking essential 0141-227 1999) Charles McKean "Is Glasgow well dressed or wearing cast-offs?" 20 Nov 6.30pm; Gavin Stamp on Alexander Thomson at Waterstones in Sauchiehall Street, 26 Nov 6pm; Scottish Houses exhibition of contemporary houses at Dundee Central Library, 27-29 Nov.

Northern Ireland: "Modern Architecture in Belfast is a Thing of the Past" debate at Queens University, Belfast, 21 Nov (01232 323760).

Channel Islands: Jersey Open Buildings - the National Trust buildings of Jersey, 20-27 Nov (Jeremy Barns on 01534 33100); RIBA Award-winner Jersey College for Girls Preparatory School opens its doors, 22-23 Nov (Dot Brown on 0162 842 200).

THE INDEPENDENT

Win a Christmas Shopping Weekend to Calais with Copthorne Hotels and Le Shuttle



COPTHORNE

Make Christmas shopping less stressful this year by winning a luxury weekend break at the 3 star Copthorne Calais Hotel.

The Hotel is conveniently situated by the Channel Tunnel Terminal and Cite Europe shopping complex which offers a wide choice of 150 shops and boutiques, ideal to finalise your Christmas shopping.

The weekend break includes a two night stay in one of the luxury Connoisseur rooms, with breakfast, a meal for two in the hotel restaurant and a free bottle of champagne to celebrate.

You can also take full advantage of the Hotel's excellent health and leisure facilities.

Call 0930 563 564

All Independent readers are eligible for a special rate of £45 per person for an overnight break at the Copthorne Calais. Price includes one night bed & breakfast & return Le Shuttle ticket based on two in a car, valid until 23/12/97.

To book call Le Shuttle Holidays on 0990 353533 and quote "The Independent Promotion". Prices are based on two people sharing a room. A limited number of rooms are available.

Call 0930 563 564

and quote "The Independent Promotion". Prices are based on two people sharing a room. A limited number of rooms are available.

Call 0930 563 564

The higher they fly, the harder they fall

When powerful executive women get the sack, they hit the headlines as men rarely do. Their private lives and personal style get as much attention as the profit warnings. Whose fault is that, Ann Treneman asks.

Ann Iverson was fired this week as chief executive of Laura Ashley for failing to rescue the struggling company. I report this to you just in case you may have missed it amid the acres of space devoted to other aspects of the story. Like the fact that Ann is 53, a chain-smoker and has been married four times. Like the fact that she is flame-haired, aggressive and a workaholic.

She is guilty of many crimes. *The Daily Mail* reports that she has "built up a reputation for silly-voiced aggression and a ruthless attitude to dissent from subordinates". *The Telegraph* reveals that she is a "one-time" rodeo rider. But the worst crime of all is that this summer she appeared in *Vogue* wearing a black leather coat and "little else". In another outrageous act, *The Times* reports, she "crooned" in the caption: "All those City guys love to think of me in black leather, so I may as well live up to expectations."

Yesterday Ms Iverson was not to be found. She was not talking. I don't blame her, but I'd love to hear what she thinks of the glee in which her downfall has been reported. When powerful men fail, the facts are dutifully reported. When powerful women do the same, it is a case of the Wonderwoman who crashed to earth.

"It's just misogyny," comments one female journalist. Some colleagues agree, others beg to differ. They point out that she did fail rather spectacularly and that she was too optimistic, over-expanded and left a company rumoured to be on the point of collapse. None of this is in dispute. Ann Iverson was paid more than £1m

last year to do a job that she failed to do. But what does this have to do with crooning and flame hair? What is being questioned – and what needs to be – is the way in which the media report on women of achievement.

This is a subject that unites the small group of women who have made it somewhere near the top of their various professions. Nicola Horlick may be many things but there is no doubt that she was naive in her expectations of how the press would cover her sacking as head of Deutsche Morgan Grenfell's £1.8bn pension fund business. She says that if she were a man, the press would not have been camped outside her house while she was inside trying to breastfeed her baby and she is probably right.

Such women are never portrayed as what they really are, either. Horlick instantly became Superwoman although in fact she was a businesswoman with a nanny. When the news broke that Christine Walker, one of the most powerful women in advertising, is fighting a court battle with her former employers, she was called a "media mother" in headlines. Would a man have been called a "media father"? (Would anyone even understand what those words together could mean?) "Newspapers always try to get a human interest spin if it is a woman," said Ms Walker yesterday. "If a man does something he isn't described as a Superman who is married with two children."

Last year the group Women in Journalism conducted a survey of how the press covers such women. I helped to conduct this research, which involved lots of



reading (as well as measuring) the coverage afforded to women and men involved in similar news stories. Specific cases included the defections of MPs Alan Howarth and Emma Nicholsoo and the mountaineering deaths of Alison Hargreaves and Geoff Tier.

The results were overwhelming. Emma Nicholsoo

was called menopausal and a Wicked Witch for daring to switch her allegiance from the Tories to the Liberal Democrats. Alan Howarth was portrayed as a moral crusader acting out the highest possible principles. The death of mountaineer and mother Alison Hargreaves attracted some 800 paragraphs of coverage, the

death of mountaineer and father Geoff Tier garnered 20.

The press, when confronted, admits the error of its ways. This, for instance, was some of the reaction to the Women in Journalism survey. "As the Duchess of York will doubtless agree, when women become hate figures in the press, coverage of their downfall is not

just hostile but downright poisonous," said no less an expert than the *Evening Standard*. *The Guardian* weighed in as well: "The day may shortly come when tired old hacks pumping out habs by numbers actually become a financial liability to a medium that desperately needs to keep hold of its declining audience."



Taking it personally:
Ann Iverson, Nicola
Horlick (top), Clare
Spottiswoode (centre)
and Christine Walker.
Will Barbara Cassani
(bottom), new arrival
at British Airways, be
next in line?
Main photograph: FT

have even had my character and competence assessed in an article based solely on the floral print of my dress."

This is the kind of thing that Ann Iverson – who, of course, met her downfall in a company devoted to floral dresses – can relate to as she figures out what to do with her £450,000 payoff and her tattered career. She also might wonder if there is any way she could have played it differently. Did she, in some way, invite such headlines as yesterday's in the *Mail* that said "Ruthless? Ask the four husbands she has 'sacked'". Could she have done something to stop the speculation about her love life, her rodeo past, her aggressive ways...

The answer, probably, is no. There are very few female high-flyers who could have escaped such a spectacular sacking without similar coverage. Perhaps the exception is one woman in the news today: Carol Galley of Mercury Asset Management likes to keep a low profile and rarely speaks out on anything not pertaining directly to business. But not all women want to do this – though it is something of which someone like Barbara Cassani should take note.

Ms Cassani was chosen this week to head British Airways' new low-cost carrier. News reports have already told us she is as feminine as she is feisty and a charming mother of two. Like Ann Iverson, she is American. I doubt whether she'll be posing in *Vogue* though. "I won't be jumping out of a cake at the launch party," she told reporters. But perhaps it wouldn't matter if she did. When it comes to the female of the species, the press is as deadly as the women are said to be.

There is a time when you must stop helping a selfish scrooge

VIRGINIA IRONSIDE



DILEMMAS

Barbara is always doing her in-laws' favours: doing their tax returns, entertaining them. Her reward's been an egg-timer. Now her father-in-law's asking for advice on shares he's giving his other grandchildren – not her children, he says, because she's a Labour supporter. She feels bitter. Her husband says she shouldn't be so generous.

The dilemma is really this: what do you do if you have a completely unthinking, unfeeling git in the family? Try to just them out of it? Cut them out of your life? Write them a serious letter explaining how you feel? Mean old gits are notoriously insensitive and usually it means using devious means to get them to change their behaviour in any way at all.

First of all Barbara needs to get the situation clear to her head. Forget the fact that he's her father-in-law or that nice people are meant to do nice things for people in order to have nice things done back to them. Mean old gits don't speak this language. She is, simply, being exploited by a jerk and she must decide whether to continue to be generous to him, turning the other cheek, or to use self-preservation techniques and in future say that she's far too busy (trying to earn money to buy shares for her children, perhaps?) to be able to help them again.

She could of course write him a letter. Not a whingeing or an angry letter, but one that runs something like this. "Dear Dad, I have been so glad to have been some help to you over your tax and enjoyed saving you several thousands of pounds, but I can't help feeling that you are now deciding to give shares only to your other grandchildren. I am not upset on my own behalf, but on behalf of my children. Have I or they done something wrong to be treated like this? Perhaps I have offended you in some way. If so I apologise. Do let me know what has happened between us so that I may try to put things right, love from Barbara".

Or she could approach her mother-in-law, who is a rather shady figure in this whole saga.

WHAT READERS SAY

Ask them for help

When other people don't appear to respond to given situations with a generosity equal to our own we are often disappointed. Unless you feel able to discuss your misgivings openly with your father-in-law (which I assume is not an option or you would already have tried it) then your husband is probably right. You may find a shift in your own attitude will bring rewards. The next time your in-laws ask for advice think of something that they could help you with in return then ask for it. Maybe there is a reason why they have never offered to help with your new baby or they may feel you don't trust them.

If you continue to give your time and resources so freely then clearly your in-laws will continue to make demands and your resentment will doubtless increase. By showing them that you have needs too the dynamics of your relationship will be forced to change, hopefully for the better.

Lizette Aldsworth

Rich but impoverished I can well understand how Barbara feels about her father-in-law's meanness. My Dad is a master in the art of increasing his already considerable wealth but doesn't believe in sharing it. Apart from buying everything second-hand, he'd rather wear his coat indoors than put his heating on during the day. He has never offered to baby-sit for his grandchildren nor taken them to a burger bar or the cinema, believing them to be a "scandalous waste of money".

My mother is the opposite (that's probably why they're divorced) and never stops spending, on holidays, expensive clothes, jewellery and cosmetics – for herself. She is too busy treating herself to spend time with us or her grandchil-

dren, and steadfastly sticks to her limit of £12.50 per child at Christmas.

My mother-in-law, stricken with a chronic illness, is confined to bed and her oxygen machine – yet is financially and emotionally generous. Her greatest sorrow is that she can no longer baby-sit or play with her grandchildren.

I find my parents' selflessness infuriating and beyond belief sometimes – especially compared to my mother-in-law, but I don't believe that rowing or trying to thwart them would change anything. Barbara's generous nature won't change and she should stop expecting her father-in-law to be any different. Like my parents, he may be well off, but is to be pitied because he is impoverished by such an ugly trait.

Anon

Professional advice

It is a sad, but general, rule that people do not place much value on the help they get for free.

Next time Barbara's odious father-in-law wants "a hand" with his tax arrangements, she should tell him pleasantly that she is unfortunately too busy to give his affairs the attention they require, but that she would be glad to recommend the services of a professional acquaintance – warning him that this may well set him back a bit. I think he will get the message. As for the milk of human kindness, Barbara, you've been pouring it down the drain.

Angela Partington

Convert to the Tories! If I were in Barbara's position I would feign having changed my politics and see what happens then. If a man can be as despicably mean-spirited as is claimed he deserves a deliberate lie and a good one at that.

Alan J. Page

NEXT WEEK'S DILEMMA

This may sound a trivial problem, but it's something I can't come to terms with. My husband is a really nice man. He's intelligent, he's funny, he's kind, he's generous. But nearly every weekend we go off on an expedition, and so soon as we get into the car he becomes a different man. He's bad-tempered with other drivers, drives too fast (I think) though he's never had an accident, gets enraged

with me if I read the map wrongly, and, worst of all, always refuses to ask the way if we're lost.

Last week we drove round for an hour searching for a country house we wanted to see and by the time we got there it was closed. I'm starting to dread these weekend outings, but he doesn't seem to understand what upsets me. Do any other readers have the same problem?

Hannah

Letters are welcome, and everyone who has a suggestion quoted will be sent a bouquet from Interflora. Send your personal experiences or comments to me at the Features Department, *The Independent*, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL (fax 0171-293 2182) by Tuesday morning.

And if you have any dilemma of your own that you would like to share, please let me know.

THE INDEPENDENT Car Heater - only £19.95 inc. p&p

Keep warm in the cold weather with this handy heater. You don't have to wait for your car engine to warm up before you can use this 12 volt car heater. It provides the quick solution to feed-up windscreens and a chilly interior. Simply plug the heater into the car's cigarette lighter socket and feel the heat immediately. The unit's 150 watt element provides effective heat and incorporates a safety cut-out switch to avoid overheating. It is installed by simply fixing it onto the dashboard or visor (velcro pads are supplied). It can also be installed in the rear of the car for back seat passengers. The car heater is on offer for only £19.95 including postage and packing.

HOW TO ORDER

Fill in the coupon and send together with cheque or postal order. NO CASH please.

THE INDEPENDENT CAR HEATER OFFER
PO BOX 9477, LONDON E3 3SH.

For Access/Visa orders, please ring 0171 510 0193.

We deliver to addresses in the UK only. Please allow up to 28 days for delivery from receipt of order. Returns within 7 days for refund if not completely satisfied.

Offer subject to availability.

Please send me Car Heater(s) @ £19.95 each

I enclose a crossed cheque for £ (address on back) made payable to: NEWSPAPER PUBLISHING LTD/73

or debit my Access/Visa account by this amount. My card number is:

Expiry Date Signature

NAME

ADDRESS

Post Code

Send to: THE INDEPENDENT CAR HEATER OFFER
PO Box 9477, London E3 3SH.

Please tick the box if you do not wish to receive free offers from Newspaper Publishing Plc.

Buy in England 100% Money Back Guarantee. I Cash Saver. Credit Card Under £100.

0171 293 2182

The child abuse challenge: to transform the culture of care



EDITOR: ANDREW MARR.
DEPUTY EDITOR: COLIN HUGHES.
ADDRESS: 1 CANADA SQUARE,
CANARY WHARF,
LONDON E1 5DL
TELEPHONE: 0171 293 2000
OR 0171 345 2000
FAX: 0171 293 2435
OR 0171 345 2435

Post letters to Letters to the Editor
and include a daytime telephone number.
Fax 0171 293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk
E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address.
Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

The blame for Luxor

Sir: Despicable as terrorist attacks on innocent people are, the blame has to be squarely put on the Egyptian government.

Egyptians used to pride themselves on one of the most equal distributions of income and most comprehensive social security nets among developing countries, and popular opinion sees the years of the 1950s and 60s under President Nasser, who dispossessed the feudal élite, as golden years.

Of course there came the time when the country did not seem to be able to afford all that. With the advent of Sadat's populist policies were firmly driven back, and soon the old feudal families re-emerged as rulers of the country.

The current regime under President Mubarak entered the stage after the assassination of Sadat in 1981 with a good reputation. Mubarak is an Air Force officer from a modest background and was hailed for his integrity, unlike the alleged corruption of Sadat and his cronies. Things have changed since then.

The international financial community is increasingly happy with the state of affairs. A structural adjustment programme devised with the help of the World Bank and the IMF has put the country on the map of international portfolio investment as labour regulations, social security and government redistribution policies have given way to shareholder value. The majority of the people do not participate in the boom.

The Muslim Brotherhood was the only big opposition movement in an otherwise thoroughly undemocratic country. It ran schools and social services the government could no longer provide. And it was a home for moderate Islamic opposition. Until two years ago that is, when the leaders were arrested and the whole movement closed down.

Close down a populist movement, and the more active members will go underground. The strongarm tactics of a succession of interior ministers and state security chiefs (the latter are promoted to the former, as happened again this week) create martyrs and do not solve anything.

ULRICH BARTSCH
Oxford

Tobacco battle

Sir: Your headline "Lung cancer toll worsened by attitudes" (18 November) with the suggestion that anti-smoking campaigns add to the sufferings of smokers, distracts attention from the fact that their sufferings are caused by the tobacco industry, aided by the press, the advertising industry and governments which surrender to its financial power.

We have known for more than 40 years that cigarette smoking is the cause of the worldwide increase in deaths from lung cancer which followed the spread of this habit.

As long ago as January 1953 the British public was informed of this in a BBC television programme in which I took part. Rational application of this knowledge could have led to dramatic reduction in new cases of lung cancer, but because of failure of appropriate action

by individuals and by governments, this had not occurred.

Nevertheless, we must not despair, but continue to publicise the fact that smoking greatly increases the risks of lung cancer, and of some other common lung and heart diseases.

Are we to desist from this effort on the specious excuse that we must spare the feelings of those affected by smoking-induced diseases? In my book, this would be another surrender to market forces of course, to the benefit of the tobacco industry and its hangers-on.

Professor J G SCADDING
Beaconsfield,
Buckinghamshire

Sir: Richard Evans (letter, 17 November) cites California as an example of "American-style" ban on smoking. California is the one state that most Americans wouldn't refer to as the norm for almost anything.

This is the state that stops

people at its borders to confiscate "foreign" fruits and plants to prevent unwanted insects from infecting local plants. Nobody has been able to explain to me how they prevent these insects from flying across the border on their own.

Outsiders commonly refer to California as "the land of fruits and outs".

DAVID McNICKLE
St Albans, Hertfordshire

The writer is from Cleveland, Ohio

Proof against pain

Sir: You report (18 November) on research that suggests that nurture rather than nature is responsible for the variation in people's pain thresholds.

Years ago I lived in Montreal, when French Canadians were still famous for producing large families. Ten or more children was common. My dentist there told me he could al-

ways tell whether a woman patient had been the eldest daughter in her family. The eldest daughter, he said, did not feel pain that would have others howling.

He attributed this to the fact that they were bred to be concerned and responsible for others, to the exclusion of self, from a very tender age.

MARJORIE HEATH
Hopton, Norfolk

Aggressive beggars

Sir: In his zeal to lay the death of a homeless person at the door of the *Edinburgh Evening News* and *The Scotsman*, Patrick Small (Media, 17 November) forgets one or two facts.

The *Evening News* campaign against aggressive begging is in tandem with our support for a wet hostel in Edinburgh to provide just the kind of care for those addicted to drugs and alcohol he mentions.

Aggressive begging is not rare. Lothian and Borders police have identified a hard core of approximately 30 who regularly cause trouble in the city centre. It is true that behaviour has improved since our campaign was launched.

I have lost count of the number of times we have insisted that aggressive begging and homelessness are separate issues.

Andrew Neil has never written a line for this paper. Our interest in aggressive begging predates Mr Neil's joining the paper.

I agree with Mr Small that it is shameful for some to feel the need to beg, but I fail to see why it should be deemed acceptable for ordinary people to be harassed as they go about their daily business in this city.

JOHN MCLELLAN

Editor
Edinburgh Evening News

Edinburgh

Car propaganda

Sir: One aspect of the Formula One affair does not seem to have been commented on: at a time when all environmentally aware people are trying to think of ways to counter the car crisis, it is unwise of the British Prime Minister to be seen to embrace the top propaganda of the motor industry.

Professor G V R BORN
London EC1

Sir: Richard Branson (letter, 17 November) says he pledged to set up a "rival sport" to Formula One should the teams withdraw from Britain in the wake of a tobacco sponsorship ban. Presumably he would stand to gain financially if this were to happen. Therefore he is no longer in a position to give impartial advice to the Government on this issue.

ADRIAN STRONG

Bexley, Kent

Veterans in Burma

Sir: Where does the Remembrance Day poppy money go (Letters, 11, 14, 19 November)? I wrote recently to the British Legion about their advertising of holidays in Burma while that country's elected leader is under house arrest. Their reply was simply: "We have no intention of not organising holidays in Burma."

R A COOPER
Ludwell, Wiltshire

Mobile menace

Sir: I was reading a noticeboard in Hammersmith Road in London when I was run into by a woman who was driving a motorised wheelchair while engaged in conversation on her mobile phone (a conversation she continued while I was picking myself up from the ground).

If the Government plans to prevent use of mobile phones by road users, is there any chance they could extend it to other forms of transport?

RICHARD BARTLE

West Bergholt, Essex

as I have never seen *Neighbours*. "Don't look at me, then."

Well, the prince and the princess did show up eventually, and a nice young pair they were too. You might expect them to keep their distance from each other out of working hours, but I am told by actors that love on stage is very often followed by romance off-stage as well, and what was charming was that the two of them had obviously fallen in love during the course of the show.

He was a young English actor I had never heard of. She was a young Australian actress who had made a name for herself in *Neighbours*, though what the name she had made for herself was I cannot tell you

as I have never seen *Neighbours*. "Don't look at me, then."

Well, the prince and the

princess did show up eventually, and a nice young pair they were too. You might expect them to keep their distance from each other out of working hours, but I am told by actors that love on stage is very often followed by romance off-stage as well, and what was charming was that the two of them had obviously fallen in love during the course of the show.

He was a young English actor I had never heard of. She was a young Australian actress who had made a name for herself in *Neighbours*, though what the name she had made for herself was I cannot tell you

as I have never seen *Neighbours*. "Don't look at me, then."

Well, the prince and the

princess did show up eventually, and a nice young pair they were too. You might expect them to keep their distance from each other out of working hours, but I am told by actors that love on stage is very often followed by romance off-stage as well, and what was charming was that the two of them had obviously fallen in love during the course of the show.

He was a young English actor I had never heard of. She was a young Australian actress who had made a name for herself in *Neighbours*, though what the name she had made for herself was I cannot tell you

as I have never seen *Neighbours*. "Don't look at me, then."

Well, the prince and the princess did show up eventually, and a nice young pair they were too. You might expect them to keep their distance from each other out of working hours, but I am told by actors that love on stage is very often followed by romance off-stage as well, and what was charming was that the two of them had obviously fallen in love during the course of the show.

He was a young English actor I had never heard of. She was a young Australian actress who had made a name for herself in *Neighbours*, though what the name she had made for herself was I cannot tell you

as I have never seen *Neighbours*. "Don't look at me, then."

Well, the prince and the princess did show up eventually, and a nice young pair they were too. You might expect them to keep their distance from each other out of working hours, but I am told by actors that love on stage is very often followed by romance off-stage as well, and what was charming was that the two of them had obviously fallen in love during the course of the show.

He was a young English actor I had never heard of. She was a young Australian actress who had made a name for herself in *Neighbours*, though what the name she had made for herself was I cannot tell you

as I have never seen *Neighbours*. "Don't look at me, then."

Well, the prince and the princess did show up eventually, and a nice young pair they were too. You might expect them to keep their distance from each other out of working hours, but I am told by actors that love on stage is very often followed by romance off-stage as well, and what was charming was that the two of them had obviously fallen in love during the course of the show.

He was a young English actor I had never heard of. She was a young Australian actress who had made a name for herself in *Neighbours*, though what the name she had made for herself was I cannot tell you

as I have never seen *Neighbours*. "Don't look at me, then."

Well, the prince and the princess did show up eventually, and a nice young pair they were too. You might expect them to keep their distance from each other out of working hours, but I am told by actors that love on stage is very often followed by romance off-stage as well, and what was charming was that the two of them had obviously fallen in love during the course of the show.

He was a young English actor I had never heard of. She was a young Australian actress who had made a name for herself in *Neighbours*, though what the name she had made for herself was I cannot tell you

as I have never seen *Neighbours*. "Don't look at me, then."

Well, the prince and the princess did show up eventually, and a nice young pair they were too. You might expect them to keep their distance from each other out of working hours, but I am told by actors that love on stage is very often followed by romance off-stage as well, and what was charming was that the two of them had obviously fallen in love during the course of the show.

He was a young English actor I had never heard of. She was a young Australian actress who had made a name for herself in *Neighbours*, though what the name she had made for herself was I cannot tell you

as I have never seen *Neighbours*. "Don't look at me, then."

Well, the prince and the princess did show up eventually, and a nice young pair they were too. You might expect them to keep their distance from each other out of working hours, but I am told by actors that love on stage is very often followed by romance off-stage as well, and what was charming was that the two of them had obviously fallen in love during the course of the show.

He was a young English actor I had never heard of. She was a young Australian actress who had made a name for herself in *Neighbours*, though what the name she had made for herself was I cannot tell you

as I have never seen *Neighbours*. "Don't look at me, then."

Well, the prince and the princess did show up eventually, and a nice young pair they were too. You might expect them to keep their distance from each other out of working hours, but I am told by actors that love on stage is very often followed by romance off-stage as well, and what was charming was that the two of them had obviously fallen in love during the course of the show.

He was a young English actor I had never heard of. She was a young Australian actress who had made a name for herself in *Neighbours*, though what the name she had made for herself was I cannot tell you

as I have never seen *Neighbours*. "Don't look at me, then."

Well, the prince and the princess did show up eventually, and a nice young pair they were too. You might expect them to keep their distance from each other out of working hours, but I am told by actors that love on stage is very often followed by romance off-stage as well, and what was charming was that the two of them had obviously fallen in love during the course of the show.

He was a young English actor I had never heard of. She was a young Australian actress who had made a name for herself in *Neighbours*, though what the name she had made for herself was I cannot tell you

as I have never seen *Neighbours*. "Don't look at me, then."

Well, the prince and the princess did show up eventually, and a nice young pair they were too. You might expect them to keep their distance from each other out of working hours, but I am told by actors that love on stage is very often followed by romance off-stage as well, and what was charming was that the two of them had obviously fallen in love during the course of the show.

He was a young English actor I had never heard of. She was a young Australian actress who had made a name for herself in *Neighbours*, though what the name she had made for herself was I cannot tell you

as I have never seen *Neighbours*. "Don't look at me, then."

Well, the prince and the princess did show up eventually, and a nice young pair they were too. You might expect them to keep their distance from each other out of working hours, but I am told by actors that love on stage is very often followed by romance off-stage as well, and what was charming was that the two of them had obviously fallen in love during the course of the show.

He was a young English actor I had never heard of. She was a young Australian actress who had made a name for herself in *Neighbours*, though what the name she had made for herself was I cannot tell you

as I have never seen *Neighbours*. "Don't look at me, then."

Well, the prince and the princess did show up eventually, and a nice young pair they were too. You might expect them to keep their distance from each other out of working hours, but I am told by actors that love on stage is very often followed by romance off-stage as well, and what was charming was that the two of them had obviously fallen in love during the course of the show.

He was a young English actor I had never heard of. She was a young Australian actress who had made a name for herself in *Neighbours*, though what the name she had made for herself was I cannot tell you

as I have never seen *Neighbours*. "Don't look at me, then."

Well, the prince and the princess did show up eventually, and a nice young pair they were too. You might expect them to keep their distance from each other out of working hours, but I am told by actors that love on stage is very often followed by romance off-stage as well, and what was charming was that the two of them had obviously fallen in love during the course of the show.

He was a young English actor I had never heard of. She was a young Australian actress who had made a name for herself in *Neighbours*, though what the name she had made for herself was I cannot tell you

as I have never seen *Neighbours*. "Don't look at me, then."

Well, the prince and the princess did show up eventually, and a nice young pair they were too. You might expect them to keep their distance from each other out of working hours, but I am told by actors that love on stage is very often followed by romance off-stage as well, and what was charming was that the two of them had obviously fallen in love during the course of the show.

He was a young English actor I had never heard of. She was a young Australian actress who had made a name for herself in *Neighbours*, though what the name she had made for herself was I cannot tell you

**'In My Own Words' –
Van, minus the Man**JOHN
WALSH

Van Morrison, the unsmiling, jazz-rock artiste who started life as a beefy tearaway fronting the Sixties Belfast pop group Them and metamorphosed into a prolific Irish-American singer of mystic invocations to God and rock 'n' roll, has always wanted to be taken seriously as a poet. For the moment, though, he's having trouble becoming an autobiographer.

Most of the rock-biography gossip at the Frankfurt Book Fair last month was about Elton John's projected drugs-and-shags confession, which is still being fought over by publishers with £10m to spare, but Van's self-penned book, provisionally entitled *In My Own Words*, was also on offer. The agents, Sheff Land, were looking for only £500,000 – peanuts when compared with the asking price for Elton's book, but a bargain for a publishing house anxious to cash in on the myriad fans of the man they call, er, "The Man".

So why, a month after Frankfurt, are there still no takers for this exciting work? I have in my hand an outline of the book, in Van's own words: He offers a "Chapter Break-down" of 44 chapters, delivered with a terse economy worthy of Harold Pinter. "Chapter 6, Early Writing, Chapter 7, Musical Influences, Chapter 8, Songwriting, Chapter 9, Inspiration, Chapter 10, Music in General, Chapter 11, The Music Business, Chapter 12, Lyrics..." It goes on like this, getting tarser all the time: "23, The Media, 24, Fame, 25, Touring, 26, Interviews, 27, Bands..." Just when you're wondering where the actual stuff about his life is – the Belfast rock chicks, the cult fame of *Astral Weeks*, the American-visionary make-over, the late-flowering love affair with the former Miss Ireland – you discover Chapter 42 (and only Chapter 42) is titled "My Autobiography"...

Appetite whetted, you turn to a two-page extract called "Influences", in which the Rimbaud of Cypress Avenue gruffly disgorges very small bits of information about how he learnt to play guitar, and how he composes: "When I write there's an A, B and C. This is where I get the whole idea... the lyrics and the melody to the song. That's inspirational writing which is very rare. B is where I get the melody or have a melody I'm working on, and I later then go on to work with the melody and the chords. C is the reverse of that..." This gripping stuff has drawn several telephone calls from aspiring publishers, mostly to ask, "But isn't he going to tell us what it was like going out with Michelle Rocos?" The answer, I'm afraid, is, "Van does not want to discuss his private

life in this book." (In an autobiography?) I should bloody well think not. "Next thing you know," sniffs one disappointed bidder, "he'll say he doesn't want to discuss his music either."

Those imminently involved in buying wedding gifts will surely look with interest at the 50th anniversary today of, not just the nuptials of the Queen and Prince Philip, but the list of presents bought for them by 2,500 thoughtful subjects. They make fascinating reading today. They range in scale and appeal from "a cinema" (thanks to the Earl and Countess Mountbatten) to "a hand-made plastic belt" (thanks a bunch, Mr and Mrs D Flood). Many writers kindly sent books, sometimes their own: *You and the Jury* by Miss Virginia Mather was probably a welcome choice, as was *I Remember the Emersons* by Miss M M Engel. The elaborately named Mrs C St Aubyn Ratcliffe thoughtfully sent two copies of her *Fury Folk and Fairies*, so the future Duke didn't have to read it over his wife's shoulder in the royal bedchamber. Handbags were a popular choice, running the gamut from straw to tooled leather, pigskin, crocodile and suede to the jewel-mounted, gold-mesh thing from Comtesse Marcella Giannotti. Lots of people sent stockings, sheer nylon ones rather than old-fashioned silk. Mr and Mrs Fred Grote, perhaps suspecting that someone else might have thought of their idea, sent three pairs.

The RAF slung the happy couple a cheque "for the Princess Elizabeth's own use" and threw in a Steinway grand piano. Two young subjects, Miss Jill and Master Jeremy Cotton, decided a dart board would be just the thing. Two district nurses from Corsham, Wiltshire, sent a Siamese kitten. And for some reason the silliest gifts were sent by people with silly names. Mrs H G Crouk gave them a waste-paper basket, Mrs Bapsy Parvy sent a two-handled soup tureen, while a "hurricane pipe", so useful in the tropical climes of Buckingham Palace, was the choice of Mr N Y Nutt. But you can imagine the Duke of Edinburgh having more fun with any of the above than writing a thank-you letter beginning, "Dear Mrs Kownak and Mrs Bialous, Thank you for the two dolls dressed to resemble myself and Princess Elizabeth..."

Thirty-three years after his death, Brendan Behan is making waves again this weekend. The new Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern, will be at the launch in Dublin tonight of a biography of the late playwright and celebrity drunkard Michael O'Sullivan's book *Brendan Behan: A Life*, claims, *inter alia*, that he fathered two hitherto unknown children, one allegedly on an ex-mistress of Ernest Hemingway in the early 1960s. (The existence of a Behan-Hemingway connection somewhere is enough to bring a sparkle to the eyes of the world's harmen.) At the same moment, it seems Behan was also in the throes of a homosexual affair, if you believe the revelations by one Peter Arthur, a former sailor and boxer, who wrote about his many couplings with Behan in 1981, but has never had his confessions published on this side of the Atlantic. Things will come to a head on Saturday, when the biographer, the former rent boy and three of Behan's family – brothers Brian and Seanus, and sister Carmel – meet on the Pat Kenny chat show.

Brian Behan is a staunch fan of his legendary brother (he's got a one-man show called *Brian Ain't Misbehavin'* at Kilburn's Tricycle Theatre this weekend) but has sharply divergent views about the great man's sexual orientation. "My brother had a strained foreskin," he reports, "and had to have an operation in America. And after it, in my view, he was quite unequipped for sex. So I don't believe any of it." And before America? "Brendan did say once," confesses Behan *minimis*, "that if it was a choice between Michelangelo's David and Whistler's Mother – well, there'd be no contest... Golly, Behan gay, straight and impotent. Where can I get a video?"

The ghost of real politics stalk a silent, disregarded palace

ANDREW
MARR
WESTMINSTER
SLUMBERS

I've always been enjoyably haunted by that scene in *Dr Zhivago* where they scramble back into the shuttered, deserted and winter-bound country house, marooned and ghostly. Once, chasing a story, I came across, without intending to, a boarding school I attended in a similar state – shuttered windows, well-remembered classrooms slimy with mould, the drive vanished under moss, dripping silence everywhere.

And now, again, this week, a third echo of loss and abandonment: though the architecture is in rather better repair. Long, empty, corridors; silent, darkened rooms; cavernous, ill-lit hallways, where once there was laughter, argument and noise. Muffled and ghostly voices from a chamber. A pervasive sense of decrepitude, defeat and memorial slumber.

None of which may be of much consequence, except that I was in the House of Commons. Wander around the Mother of Parliaments any evening and you would conclude that the place has been shut down; that it's an institutional husk, a museum. The lobbies, bars and corridors which, in the 1980s, were crammed with plotting Members, backs and hangers-on, seem silent and mournful. Officials can be found in odd corners, murmuring about the old days, like abandoned retainers. In the Commons chamber itself a few MPs can be found too, moulting mostly to themselves, Miss Havisham-like. A wreck of a place, I assure you.

This is, granted, an evening scene. The Commons is a grand mortal plot, there was, for much of the time, a certain degree of day-to-day uncertainty and suspense built into it – cabinet-splitting arguments, sudden resignations, "will they survive this one?" cliffhanger votes – all the blood and screaming of a good, old-fashioned melodrama. There were big characters, big themes and fast, racy chapters. There was, in short, a story.

Now, with the abolition of the Commons, we are caring Tories and fiercely pro-business New Labourites. The line down the chamber has wavered and been partly rubbed out. The Government is inclusive. The Opposition is barely articulate, still winded, sitting on its bottom and rubbing its eyes. William Hague declares that the Conservative Party is back in the fight. But it doesn't, so far, agree.

I am not suggesting that the Commons was simply switched off on 2 May 1997. There are trends here which have been discussed for years. There is the rise of the TV studio as a more intimate and easily-controlled alternative to the Chamber – witness the Prime Minister's apology over the Ecclestone affair, which was welcome, but might have been even more so had it been made mid-week to Parliament, and not on a

ganisation of society, which had real consequences outside. It was a global argument; which journalists tend to regard as a reaction to Parliamentary decline, and MPs see as a prime cause of it. There's the tight grip over New Labour discussions during those Budgets that ratcheted socialism away were authentically triumphant.

Not only was there a grand mortal plot, there was, for much of the time, a certain degree of day-to-day uncertainty and suspense built into it – cabinet-splitting arguments, sudden resignations, "will they survive this one?" cliffhanger votes – all the blood and screaming of a good, old-fashioned melodrama. There were big characters, big themes and fast, racy chapters. There was, in short, a story.

Now, with the abolition of the Commons, we are caring Tories and fiercely pro-business New Labourites. The line down the chamber has wavered and been partly rubbed out. The Government is inclusive. The Opposition is barely articulate, still winded, sitting on its bottom and rubbing its eyes. William Hague declares that the Conservative Party is back in the fight. But it doesn't, so far, agree.

I am not suggesting that the Commons was simply switched off on 2 May 1997. There are trends here which have been discussed for years. There is the rise of the TV studio as a more intimate and easily-controlled alternative to the Chamber – witness the Prime Minister's apology over the Ecclestone affair, which was welcome, but might have been even more so had it been made mid-week to Parliament, and not on a

Sunday to John Humphrys.

There's the disappearance of gallery reporting in newspapers, which journalists tend to regard as a reaction to Parliamentary decline, and MPs see as a prime cause of it. There's the tight grip over New Labour discussions during those Budgets that ratcheted socialism away were authentically triumphant.

Not only was there a grand mortal plot, there was, for much of the time, a certain degree of day-to-day uncertainty and suspense built into it – cabinet-splitting arguments, sudden resignations, "will they survive this one?" cliffhanger votes – all the blood and screaming of a good, old-fashioned melodrama. There were big characters, big themes and fast, racy chapters. There was, in short, a story.

Now, with the abolition of the Commons, we are caring Tories and fiercely pro-business New Labourites. The line down the chamber has wavered and been partly rubbed out. The Government is inclusive. The Opposition is barely articulate, still winded, sitting on its bottom and rubbing its eyes. William Hague declares that the Conservative Party is back in the fight. But it doesn't, so far, agree.

I am not suggesting that the Commons was simply switched off on 2 May 1997. There are trends here which have been discussed for years. There is the rise of the TV studio as a more intimate and easily-controlled alternative to the Chamber – witness the Prime Minister's apology over the Ecclestone affair, which was welcome, but might have been even more so had it been made mid-week to Parliament, and not on a

enough of a chirpy optimist to think politics, with all its drama and tension, will reassess itself. Loyal Blairite backbenchers will become bored and unpredictable. Personality and political clashes will create their own theatricals in due course.

More important, though, we are probably in a period of political transition, from the politics of left-right to the politics of Europe-national. Mr Hague has been given a thorough kicking, not least by this newspaper, for embracing anti-EU politics and therefore – unless monetary union quickly collapses – consigning himself to certain defeat. I'm still convinced that, with business backing, there will be a pro-EMU majority by the time it matters and the nationalist crusade is romantic.

But, ultimately, Parliament seems so dull just now because of the lack of tension – that damned great majority – the lack of surprise, and the fact that the Government likes it that way. This is an administration of steely-rolled doors, impatience and get moving in Whitehall and less sentimental about Parliamentary tradition. Labour ministers, who spent years watching the antics in the Chamber with impotent irritation, have no time to mourn its passing now.

Yet without an active, challenging and unpredictable Parliament, any government is bound to get too easy a ride. There won't be the stomach-knot of tension in ministers waiting to be challenged; so they will become slacker or more arrogant than they would have been. Many backbenchers, failing to make a difference, will become discouraged and give up. Ill-considered bills will slip through, though admittedly they always have so slipped.

At this point in the argument there are a couple of "government by Prime Ministerial dictatorship" threat to democracy – Lord Hailsham vindicated; paragraphs that any adequately-trained columnist inserts pretty automatically. But I am

that the Tories have lacked during the early phase of Blairism. He might lose the next election by less than otherwise.

And – here's the crux of it – in doing so, he will be re-painting that line down the centre of the chamber, driving Tory Europeanists towards Labour and the Liberal Democrats, but tugging at the loyalties of leftish anti-federalists. A remaking of party politics, and the return of a Great Argument to Westminster is not only possible but even likely by the year 2000.

Tory sceptics are certainly right to point out that devolution and monetary union are likely to undermine the importance of Westminster further – though there is a huge job remaining for a reformed House of Commons. But it is a rich, choice and resonant irony that the place will come alive again only once the debate is joined on the policies which could silence it for good.

Bulgaria in Crisis

Appeal to Independent Readers

LEFT TO FREEZE
Yordan, 1½, already malnourished could die from cold and hunger this winter unless aid reaches him now. With temperatures plummeting to -15°C Yordan's scant clothing and no shoes offer him little protection from the bitter cold and there is no money to heat his orphanage. There are 37,000 places in Bulgaria's orphanages

**No Money To Feed The Children
No Money To Heat The Orphanages**

Bulgaria is a country in the midst of a serious economic crisis. Unless urgent help is sent, thousands of children will suffer terribly this winter.

There is little money to heat the orphanages. Orphanage Directors are having to beg for food from local villages and rarely know where the next meal is coming from. In some areas children, like Yordan, are going hungry and the cold could prove fatal for many children this winter. Without aid this could be catastrophic for Bulgaria's orphanage children.

The European Children's Trust, sister charity of The Romanian Orphanage Trust, is ready to distribute emergency food packs, clothes and fuel to the orphanages in most need. Your gift today will save lives and bring hope.

• £25 could buy enough emergency food packs to feed 200 orphanage children for a week or heat one orphanage for 3 days.

Please send whatever you can to help children survive the winter or call 01273 299399 NOW.

I enclose £_____ to save Bulgarian orphanage children. Cheques to The European Children's Trust. Or debit my Access/Visa/CAF card

Card no. _____ Expiry date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms _____

Address _____ Postcode _____

Telephone no. _____

Return to Tanya Barron, (ID6), 2nd Floor, Emergency Appeal, The European Child's 's Trust, FREEPOST KER339, 66 Queen Street, EC2B 4AR or call 01273 299399 NOW. Registered Charity No. 1048737

The European
Children's
Trust

Please act NOW - winter is coming

Barbie: from career woman to bimbo in a generation**LOUISE
LEVENE
SEX AND THE
SINGLE TOY**

November would not be complete without a seasonal out-break of toy stories. Just when it looked as if this year's PR rosette would go to the Tele-tubbies (on offer at £100 a piece in the small ads of *Loose*), Mattel weighs in with the obligatory Barbie shocker. This time it's the all-new, smaller-breasted, thicker-waisted doll due to be launched next year. The implication is that the multinational toy giant is doing its bit for feminism by dumping the impossibly pneumatic old Barbie in favour of a new one – but

read the small print and it transpires that this is merely a cynical hit of niche marketing aimed at collectors, completists and that lunatic fringe of parents who won't give the little bottle-blonde tart house-room. In fact the bulk of the trade will involve the old-style waspy-waisted nymphette and most outfit will continue to be tailored to her fantastical proportions. Imagine the scenes of humiliation in the dolls' changing room as New Barbie discovers that she can't get the shocking pink Capri pants over her sadly realistic buttocks. Does my bum look big in this?

But nine-inch dolls are only part of the picture. Although she doesn't actually appear on crisp packets, Barbie could certainly teach Simon Fuller a thing or two about merchandising. Barbie's empire includes wallpaper, pyjamas, duvet covers, condoms (only kidding). Barbie's long-standing global

success may be responsible for the fact that children's toys are more gender-specific than they were 40 years ago.

If you were packed off today to Woolworths to buy a toy for a six-year-old whose sex you didn't know, you might find that the only thing suitable was a bag of sweets. The sexual stereotyping of toys is now so universal that you can no longer buy a simple jigsaw puzzle: it has to be a Barbie or a Batman puzzle. The manufacturers' ruthless genderification of toy production has been allowed to proceed unchecked by feminist or common sense until we have reached a stage where everything from a pencil case to a tricycle is indefinitely marked with the sex for which it was designed.

We may believe that all this was true only in the bad old past when the pink-on-blue parapheilia of childhood was largely responsible for old-style



'Busy Gal' Barbie in 1960, and today's Dream Slag

The Sixties and Seventies saw an increased interest in the exciting modern idea of unisex playthings, but the trend didn't take over. Rather, boys' toys have progressed from cowboy outfits to combat fatigues and laser-sighted rifles, and Barbie has slid down the slippery primrose path into the dolly equivalent of white slavery. Once a pretty blonde who enjoyed a lively, self-sufficient existence with snappy, smart-outfits and a full diary, Barbie has degenerated into a materialistic trolley whose clothes and accessories makes Barbara Cartland look like Jean Muir at a funeral.

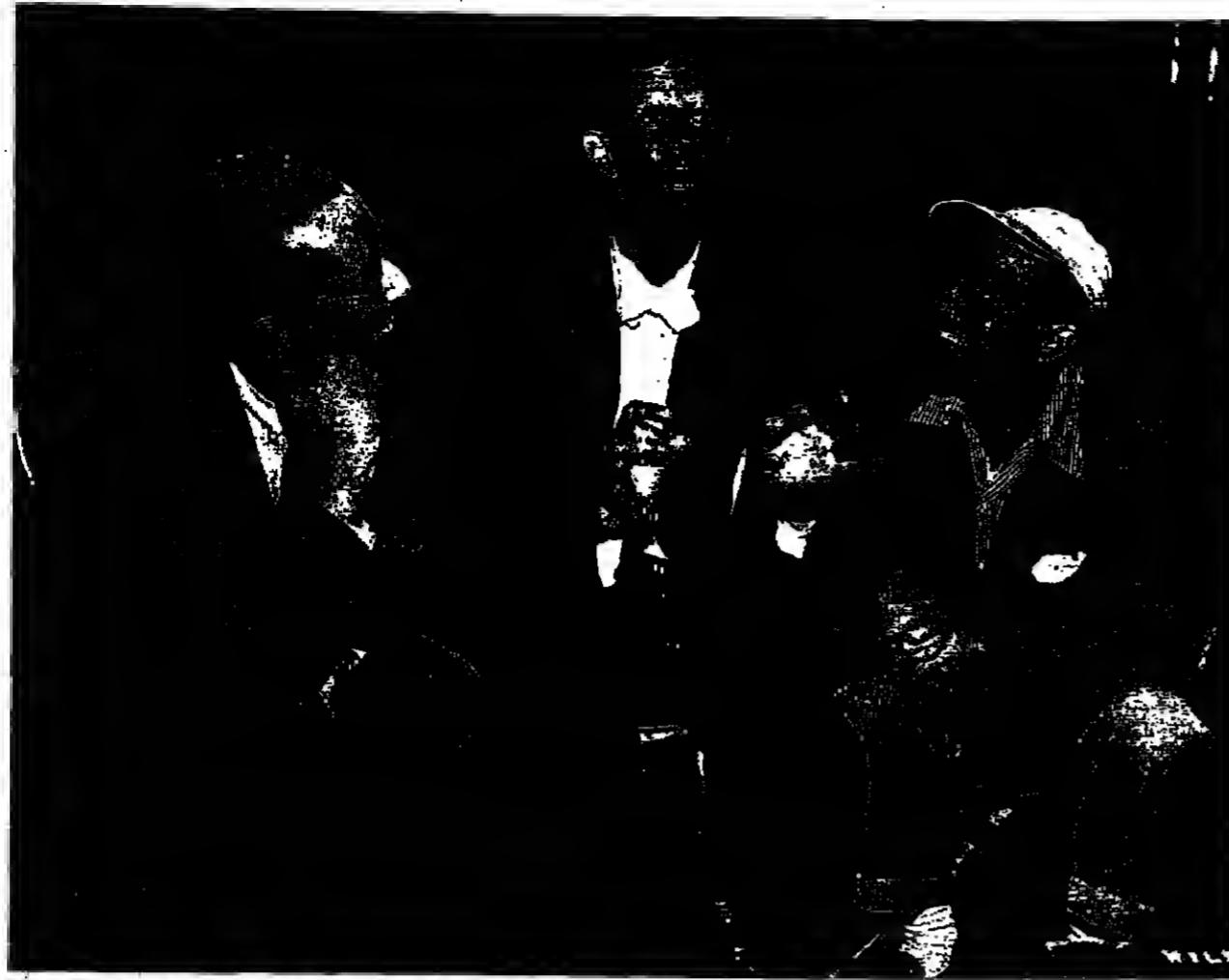
The Barbie people always insist that her career is terribly important to her in an "I want to travel and meet people" sort of way but the wardrobe tells another story. The "career girl" was gone forever; instead Nineties Barbie is a kept woman with no shame and no taste. Run your eye down the Barbie wish-list and ask yourself what self-respecting female ever paid good money for a shocking pink horse box? The faithful Ken is just a hunk: Mattel should really team up with Peter Stringfellow and launch a sugar daddy. Do toys matter? Surely it's a fine and necessary thing that girls and boys should be different? Maybe, but not if we push them both to ugly extremes of brutality and air-headedness. There is more to role-playing games than deciding which sari to wear in the speedboat. Two generations into the sexual revolution and grown women are still reading magazines that promise to make them slimmer, prettier, sexier, Barbie. It all has to start somewhere. The bimboification of Barbie has seen her degenerate from the Busby Girl of 1960 to the Rainbow Dream Slags of 1997 that line the shelves this Christmas: this is more than just a toy story.

Saul Chaplin

Saul Kaplan (Saul Chaplin), composer, arranger and producer: born New York 19 February 1912; married Ethel Schwartz (one daughter; marriage dissolved 1949), 1968 Betty Levin; died Los Angeles 15 November 1997.

Though Saul Chaplin was a notable composer and film producer, it was his work as an arranger and music supervisor that made him a key figure of the Hollywood musical. "He's one of those fellows behind the scenes that has made so many fine musicals work," said Gene Kelly. Among the films Chaplin scored were three for which he won the Academy Award: *An American in Paris* (1951), *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* (1954) and *West Side Story* (1961). He did the vocal arrangements for Al Jolson in *The Jolson Story* (1946), Judy Garland in *Summer Stock* (1950) – including her famous rendition of "Get Happy" – and Crosby and Sinatra in *High Society* (1956). His own compositions include the standards "Until the Real Thing Comes Along", "Please Be Kind" and the song which first brought fame to the Andrews Sisters, "Bei Mir Bist Du Schön".

Born Saul Kaplan in Brooklyn, New York in 1912, he was educated at the NYU School of Commerce, but after graduation became pianist with a Dixieland dance band, the Pals of Harmony. In the mid-Thirties he co-led a band with Sammy Cahn, and in 1935 the pair collaborated on their first song hit, "Rhythm is Our Business", written as a theme song for the Jimmy Lunceford band. The pair were in demand as special



Chaplin (left), Adolph Green (centre) and Gene Kelly on the set of *An American in Paris*, 1951

Cover Girl (1944), starring Rita Hayworth and Gene Kelly (who was to become a lifelong friend) was Chaplin's first major musical, and his work included the arrangement of the celebrated "Alter Ego" dance. For the enormously successful *The Jolson Story*, Chaplin not only provided vocal arrangements but had a surprise song hit:

The producer felt that Lanny Parks, as Joe, needed something to sing at his parents' anniversary party. Joe said he knew a tune that would fit – an old semi-classical Russian waltz written by J. Ivanovici. He hummed it and it sounded great, so I knocked out some lyrics in about 45 minutes. As "The Anniversary Song", it was supposed to be a little throwaway thing, but it sold over a million records and has become a standard.

In 1949, when MGM were in need of a vocal arranger for *On the Town*, Gene Kelly suggested Chaplin, who was signed to a contract and stayed at the studio for nine years. Most of Leonard Bernstein's music for the stage version of *On the Town* was jettisoned for the film and Bernstein, worried about how the remaining music would be used, sent a wire to MGM, part of which read, "Only Saul Chaplin is authorised to adapt the music I wrote for the stage version of *On the Town*".

In October, 1949, Chaplin was divorced from his first wife Ethel Schwartz (their daughter Judy is the wife of Broadway producer Harold Prince), and in 1968 he married Betty Levin.

In 1951 he won his first Oscar for his work with Johnny Green on *An American in Paris* for which he adapted and arranged the climactic ballet sequence:

There was a discussion about whether to do a 17-minute ballet, and I remember what finally settled it. There was a picture called *The Red Shoes* that had a 17-minute ballet and

that was doing very well. That settled it. As long as they could do it, we certainly could do it, only do it better.

George Gershwin's brother Ira considered Chaplin's adaptation of Gershwin's suite "Overblown", but even he admitted the sequence was "beautiful and fascinating".

When a duet was needed for Debbie Reynolds and Carleton Carpenter to perform in *Two Weeks With Love* (1950), Chaplin remembered a vaudeville number from his youth and made an arrangement for them of "Aba Daba Honeymoon" that became the hit of the film. For *Summer Stock* (1950), he composed the ballad "You Wonderful You", and when a number was needed for six dancers in *Kiss Me Kate* (1953, with Ann Miller), he suggested a song that had been cut from another Cole Porter musical, "From This Moment On". *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* brought Chaplin his second Oscar. For *High Society*, "I unearthed one of Cole Porter's old songs, 'Well, Did You Eat?' and Cole wrote a new set of lyrics for Crosby and Sinatra, though I'm proud to say I had a word or two in there, with his approval".

In 1957, he was promoted to Associate Producer on *Les Girls* (1957), on which he helped the ailing Cole Porter put together a coherent score, followed by *Merry Andrew* (1958) and *Can-Can* (1960). I first met Chaplin in 1963 when he was in England to work with Judy Garland on *I Could Go On Singing*, and found a genial and generous gentleman whose personality belied the toughness he must have had to deal with studio temperaments. I mentioned to him how much I admired his

arrangements for the 1951 remake of *Roberta*, titled *Lovely To Look At*, in particular his ballet arrangement of Jerome Kern's "Yesterday". A few weeks later I received acetate copies of the studio pre-recordings from Chaplin's own collection.

I met him again four years later on the set on his production *Star!*, where we watched in admiration as Julie Andrews executed in one take a formidable complicated routine to "Burlington Bertie". Julie Andrews and Judy Garland are the most totally professional stars I have ever worked with," said. "They both pick up a melody or routine immediately with a facility that amazes."

After his departure from MGM, Chaplin had two of his greatest successes with *West Side Story* (1961), and *The Sound of Music* (1965). He spent two years on the production of *That's Entertainment Part 2* (1976), a sequel to the successful compilation of musical extracts, this one featuring Kelly and Astaire dancing together in new linking sequences. Afterwards Saul Chaplin said the most frequent question asked in letters was "Why don't they make pictures like that anymore?", to which he would answer, "Cost". He ended his autobiography, *The Golden Age of Movie Musicals and Me* (1994), on a hopeful note:

I hope that the next phase in the development of movie musicals will combine what was outstanding about the earlier films with the best features of today's, including the startling new audio and visual technologies that are constantly being developed. Musicals will then regain their rightful glory. In the meantime, there is an enormous audience out there waiting.

– Tom Vallance

Camilla Cederna

Camilla Cederna, journalist: born Milan 21 January 1911; died Milan 9 November 1997.

The journalist Camilla Cederna was a high-society rebel. Born into a well-heeled Milanese family in 1911, she made her name writing a barbed gossip column in a weekly news magazine. It was only gradually that indulgent irony gave way to well-informed indignation. She is best remembered for her 1978 book *Giovanni Leone* – an expose of the Christian Democrat president's alleged in-

volvement in the Lockheed scandal, which forced his resignation in June 1978. Imagine Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein writing for *Today*, and you come close to her inimitable approach.

The daughter of a textile baron, she grew up coddled by the securities of Milan's *alta borghesia*: first nights at La Scala, tea and panettone at Cova in Via Montenapoleone, summers in a family house in the Valtellina (in her autobiography of 1980, *Il mondo di Camilla* she recalls "the sound of the rain on a huge beech tree outside the

window"). Her undergraduate thesis was symptomatic: a study of "Female luxury from the minor Greek philosophers to the early Church Fathers". In 1943, when Italy was on the brink of civil war, she wrote one of her first articles – a tongue-in-cheek piece on "Fascist Fashion" – which earned her a brief spell in prison for having "poked fun at the mothers of martyrs".

After the war, she joined the newly founded news weekly *L'Espresso*. In 1956 she moved over to Eugenio Scalfari's more politically committed *L'Espresso*, where she was to stay for 25

years. Here she wrote a weekly column, "Il lato debole" ("The Weak Side"), in which she registered the tics and frivolities of her fellow Milanese *borghesi*.

In the late Sixties as Italy's gilded youth was discovering the joys of student rebellion, Cederna – by now almost 60 herself – discovered a latent vocation for investigative journalism. Indeed, many would say that she single-handedly dragged the investigative genre into the play-safe world of Italian journalism. Her first campaign – which in 1971 became a book – aimed to shed light on

the death of the Milanese anarchist Giuseppe Pinelli, who "fell from a window" of the city's police HQ while being questioned about the Piazza Fontana bombing. (The Nobel laureate Dario Fo would later draw on the "accident" and the subsequent cover-up in his play *Accidental Death of an Anarchist*.) When the Milanese elite chief Luigi Calabresi was later shot by left-wing killers, Cederna was given a police escort for several months.

Later exposés pointed the finger at the way Italy's security forces were using the threat

of terrorism to infringe civil liberties; but most explosive of all was her 1978 denunciation of the rise to power and financial speculations of the country's then president, Giovanni Leone, in a book which sold 800,000 copies – a record for a political title. Leone was forced to resign, but he later sued Cederna and her publisher, Longo Feltrinelli, and won huge damages. In order to pay, she had to sell the family jewels.

During the hearings, the prosecution lawyer marvelled that "she still dares to wear jeans at her age". By this time,

Cederna was *persona non grata* at many Milanese dinner parties – but Federico Fellini and other close friends stood by her.

Camilla Cederna was amply vindicated when the Tangentopoli bribery scandal broke in 1992, revealing the corruption that lay just beneath the fur-coated facade of her beloved, berated native city. Never one to turn the other cheek, she said in a recent interview: "You can't imagine how smug I've been feeling recently, as I watch the downfall of people I've been alone in denouncing for years".

– Lee Marshall



Cederna: vindicated

Eddie Arcaro

George Edward Arcaro, jockey: born Cincinnati, Ohio 19 February 1916; twice married (one son, one daughter); died Miami, Florida 14 November 1997.

Riding for 31 seasons (1931-61), when horse-racing in America was at the height of its popularity, the jockey Eddie Arcaro stood out as the sport's most famous and popular participant.

Known as "The Master" for his riding ability, Arcaro was as tough as they come in a day when the sport, void of today's technological advances, was most unforgiving. At the time of his death, he still held the record for career earnings (of \$30m) and was second only to Johnny Longden in the number of his victories.

Arcaro was a record-setter. He is the only American rider to have ridden two winners of a

Triple Crown – the Kentucky Derby, Preakness Stakes and Belmont Stakes – Whirlaway (1941) and Citation (1948). His five Kentucky Derby victories have been matched only by Bill Hartack. He also rode a record six Preakness winners and a co-record five runnings of the Belmont Stakes.

Only at the request of the powerful owner of Greentree Stables, Mrs Harry Payne Whitney, was he allowed to ride again. Mrs Whitney, very ill at the time, wrote to the US Jock-

racecourse for a year for nearly putting another rider, Vincent Nodarse, over the rail, in a race in New York in 1942. Asked by the stewards about the incident, Arcaro replied: "Are you blind? I was trying to kill the Cuban son of a bitch."

Only at the request of the powerful owner of Greentree Stables, Mrs Harry Payne Whitney, was he allowed to ride again. Mrs Whitney, very ill at the time, wrote to the US Jock-

ey Club chairman William Woodward and told him she wanted to see Arcaro ride again in her colours before her death. It was a request that Woodward, a member of America's social élite along with Mrs Whitney, could not deny.

Arcaro was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1916, the son of an Italian immigrant cab driver. His father eventually became a bookmaker, which gave Arcaro his first introduction to horse-

racing. The family moved when he was 11 to northern Kentucky, near the old Latonia race-track, and soon young Eddie was knocking on racing's door.

He was a stablehand before being hired as an apprentice rider by the trainer Odie Cleland, developer of many successful jockeys. He then joined the trainer Alvin Booker's stable and went to Ohio where he began his riding career in 1931. His first victory was recorded

at Agua Caliente race-track in Mexico on 14 January 1932. His victory total would eventually reach 4,779.

These were the days when trainers virtually owned riders, and while Arcaro's contract remained with Booker, his career was going nowhere. But another trainer, Clarence Davison, saw great potential in him and after buying his contract, took him to Chicago, where he immediately doubled his win total the following season, in 1933. The Calumet Farm stable bought Arcaro's contract a year later for \$6,000 and his future was assured.

When he retired, Eddie Arcaro spent most of his time playing golf, perhaps his greatest love. He also worked for a time as part of a presenting crew for ABC television, and was always a great representative to the general public for the sport.

– Dan Farley

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS

DEATHS

BIRD: Wilfred John, passed away, 16 November 1997, after a major operation, aged 72 years. Loving husband of Silver, beloved father of Peter, father-in-law of Charlotte, grandfather of Philip and Henry, and brother of Doreen. Funeral service, Wednesday 26 November 1997, 11am, at St Chad's Church, Ryde, Isle of Wight, 12 noon. Family flowers only, please. Donations if desired for the British Heart Foundation, through the family. Silver and family would also like to thank staff at St Celsus Hospital LTU and the Q.E. Hospital Renal Unit.

TOGURI: David Megumi, London-based choreographer, died peacefully at his Toronto home, Saturday 15 November 1997, after a courageous battle with cancer. Beloved brother to Samuel, Etsuko, Makiko and his

son Roy, James and wife Elsa, Grace and husband Edward, Alan and wife Linda, and David and wife Linda. Many thanks to his friends and colleagues for their love and support. If desired, a memorial donation can be sent to the National Youth Theatre, 44-46 Holloway Road, London N7 6LW, to create a scholarship in David's name.

BIRTHS

Mr Michael Alexander, explorer and writer, 77; Lord Archer of Sandwell QC, former MP, 71; The Hon Hugh Astor, former deputy chairman of the *Times*, 77; Mr Peter Badde, Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, 66; Mr Alastair Cooke, journalist and broadcaster, 59; Sir Alan Goodson, former diplomat, 71; Miss Nadine Gordimer, novelist and Nobel prizewinner, 76; Miss Dulcie Gray, actress and writer, 77; Mr Aubrey Jones, former government minister, 86; Mr Plaza Khabra MP, 73; Mr Johnny Leach, former table tennis champion, 73; Mr James McPhee, solicitor, and Lord Lieutenant of the Grampian Region, 70; Sir David Prior, former MP, 73; Mr Arthur Rees, former chief constable for Denbighshire and Staffordshire, rugby player, and chairman, St John's Staffordshire, 85.

ANNIVERSARIES

Births: Thomas Chatterton, poet, 1752; Sir Samuel Cunard, shipowner, 1787; Gene Tierney, actress, 1920; Deschamps Anton Grigoryevich Rubinstein, pianist and composer, 1894; Lev Nikolayevich Tolstoy, novelist, 1910. On 19 October: Charles Stewart Rolls and Frederick Henry Royce combined to form the firm of Rolls Royce, 1906; Princess Elizabeth married the Duke of Edinburgh, 1947. Today is the Feast Day of St Bernward, St Denis, St Edmund the Martyr, St Felix of Valois, St Maximus of Beauvais and St Nereus of Salzburg.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh, to mark their Golden Wedding Anniversary, attended a Thanksgiving Service at Westminster Abbey, London SW1, attended a lunch hosted by the Government at Banqueting House, London SW1, and had a private dance at Windsor Castle. The Prince of Wales had a lunch at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, for members of royal families and guests attending the Golden Wedding Celebrations

ANNUIVERSARIES

Births: Thomas Chatterton, poet, 1752; Sir Samuel Cunard, shipowner, 1787; Gene Tierney, actress, 1920; Deschamps Anton Grigoryevich Rubinstein, pianist and composer, 1894; Lev Nikolayevich Tolstoy, novelist, 1910. On 19 October: Charles Stewart Rolls and Frederick Henry Royce combined to form the firm of Rolls Royce, 1906; Princess Elizabeth married the Duke of Edinburgh, 1947. Today is the Feast Day of St Bernward, St Denis, St Edmund the Martyr, St Felix of Valois, St Maximus of Beauvais and St Nereus of Salzburg.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am.

ANNUIVERSARIES

Births: Thomas Chatterton, poet, 1752; Sir Samuel Cunard, shipowner, 1787; Gene Tierney, actress, 1920; Deschamps Anton Grigoryevich Rubinstein, pianist and composer, 1894; Lev Nikolayevich Tolstoy, novelist, 1910. On 19 October: Charles Stewart Rolls and Frederick Henry Royce combined to form the firm of Rolls Royce, 1906; Princess Elizabeth married the Duke of Edinburgh, 1947. Today is the Feast Day of St Bernward, St Denis, St Edmund the Martyr, St Felix of Valois, St Maximus of Beauvais and St Nereus of Salzburg.

ANNUIVERSARIES

Births: Thomas Chatterton, poet, 1752; Sir Samuel Cunard, shipowner, 1787; Gene Tierney, actress, 1920; Deschamps Anton Grigoryevich Rubinstein, pianist and composer, 1894; Lev Nikolayevich Tolstoy, novelist, 1910. On 19 October: Charles Stewart Rolls and Frederick Henry Royce combined to form the firm of Rolls Royce, 1906; Princess Elizabeth married the Duke of Edinburgh, 1947. Today is the Feast Day of St Bernward, St Denis, St Edmund the Martyr, St Felix of Valois, St Maximus of Beauvais and St Nereus of Salzburg.

ANNUIVERSARIES

Births: Thomas Chatterton, poet, 1752; Sir Samuel Cunard, shipowner, 1787; Gene Tierney, actress, 1920; Deschamps Anton Grigoryevich Rubinstein, pianist and composer, 1894; Lev Nikolayevich Tolstoy, novelist, 1910. On 19 October: Charles Stewart Rolls and Frederick Henry Royce combined to form the firm of Rolls Royce, 1906; Princess Elizabeth married the Duke of Edinburgh, 1947. Today is the Feast Day of St Bernward, St Denis, St Edmund the Martyr, St Felix of Valois, St Maximus of Beauvais and St Nereus of Salzburg.

ANNUIVERSARIES

Births: Thomas Chatterton, poet, 1752; Sir Samuel Cunard, shipowner, 1787; Gene Tierney, actress, 1920; Deschamps Anton Grigoryevich Rubinstein, pianist and composer, 1894; Lev Nikolayevich Tolstoy, novelist, 1910. On 19 October: Charles Stewart Rolls and Frederick Henry Royce combined to form the firm of Rolls Royce, 1906; Princess Elizabeth married the Duke of Edinburgh, 1947. Today is the Feast Day of St Bernward, St Denis, St Edmund the Martyr, St Felix of Valois, St Maximus of Beauvais and St Nereus of Salzburg.

ANNUIVERSARIES

Births: Thomas Chatterton, poet, 1752; Sir Samuel Cunard, shipowner, 1787; Gene Tierney, actress, 1920; Deschamps Anton Grigoryevich Rubinstein, pianist and composer, 1894; Lev Nikolayevich Tolstoy, novelist, 1910. On 19 October: Charles Stewart Rolls and Frederick Henry Royce combined to form the firm of Rolls Royce, 1906; Princess Elizabeth married the Duke of Edinburgh, 1947. Today is the Feast Day of St Bernward, St Denis, St Edmund the Martyr, St Felix of Valois, St Maximus of Beauvais and St Nereus of Salzburg.

BUSINESS & CITY EDITOR, JEREMY WARNER
NEWS DESK: 0171-293 2636 FAX: 0171-293 2098 E-MAIL: INDYBUSINESS@INDEPENDENT.CO.UK
FINANCIAL JOURNAL OF THE YEAR

Sealing the deal: (from left) Herb Allison, president of Merrill Lynch, Hugh Stevenson, chairman of Mercury Asset Management, Michael Marks and David Causer

Photograph: Nicola Kurz

Four leave after UBS suffers big trading loss

The giant Union Bank of Switzerland yesterday disclosed that it had been rocked by huge trading losses, possibly running into hundreds of millions of pounds, incurred by three derivatives traders in New York. The traders have left the bank and the affair has also claimed the scalp of their boss, Ramy Goldstein, who worked at the UBS London office.

UBS refused to quantify the size of the loss, declined to make any comment on whether the losses resulted from fraudulent trading and would not discuss the circumstances surrounding the departure of the four employees. Traders at other City houses reckoned the losses suffered by UBS could top £220m.

The New York-based traders were Ronny Apfel, Neall Tahalmein and Allen Burstein. Mr Goldstein was described by one trader last night as "an extremely sharp guy", and was generally considered to be one of the most talented dealers in the City. All four worked for UBS's equity derivatives department.

One trader said: "The view here is that they [the four traders] were sacked because they lost money, not because anything underhand, such as mispricing, was going on." But another said he was "very surprised" at Mr Goldstein's departure and the manner of the departure suggested "something big" had gone on.

In August, UBS said its first-half figures for its equity derivatives department were "unsatisfactory". The bank did not detail results for its equity derivatives division, but total trading income rose by just 1 per cent. One banking observer said last night: "The first-half results, though disappointing, do not seem sufficient to warrant Mr Goldstein's departure."

Mr Goldstein's responsibilities will transfer to Hans Peter Bauer, global head of fixed income, currencies and derivatives. The departure of the derivative traders is thought by some dealers in the City to be part of a big reshuffle. UBS is likely to announce details of a wide-ranging shake-up of management tomorrow.

— Lea Paterson

Merrill snaps up MAM in unexpected £3.1bn deal

The revolution in global financial markets took an unexpected step yesterday as Merrill Lynch agreed a £3.1bn takeover of Britain's biggest fund manager, Mercury Asset Management.

Tom Stevenson, financial editor, watched another British institution fall into foreign ownership.

Merrill Lynch snapped up Mercury Asset Management yesterday with a £17 a share recommended offer. The surprise deal will create the world's third largest fund manager, catapulting MAM's senior fund managers, Carol Galley and Stephen Zimmerman, to the head of a global investment powerhouse.

MAM, which saw its funds under management recently pass the £100bn mark for the first time, will continue trading under its current name in the UK. Worldwide, Merrill Lynch Mercury will control \$450bn (£266bn) of funds, putting it behind only Fidelity and Axa.

The deal is a further blow to British ownership of the world's leading financial organisations. The takeover follows the acquisition by foreign buyers of Morgan Grenfell, SG Warburg, Kleinwort Benson and Barings. Barclays has just agreed to sell its investment banking arm, BZW, to Credit Suisse First Boston and NatWest is rumoured to be considering a sale of its Markets arm to an overseas bank.

The terms of the deal, which valued MAM at 3 per cent of its funds under management, took the City by surprise and sent shares in other fund managers soaring yesterday. When NatWest bought Gartmore

recently it paid under 2 per cent of assets under management and yesterday analysts were reassessing the possible value of similar businesses.

M&G, a fund manager with a big retail franchise, saw its shares rise 160p to 1335p. Perpetual jumped 240p to 2475p and Schroders, an investment bank with a big fund management operation, rose 140p to 1815p. MAM's shares closed 380p higher at 1675p.

The £17 a share being paid by Merrill Lynch in cash represents a 31 per cent premium to MAM's share price before the deal was announced. Reflecting an uncharacteristically poor investment performance recently, MAM's shares have underperformed the market this year after outperforming strongly in the 10 years since it was floated off from its parent SG Warburg in 1987.

David Komansky, chairman and chief executive of Merrill Lynch, denied yes-

terday that the takeover, worth 25 times MAM's earnings last year, represented a classic top-of-bull-market deal. He said MAM was an ideal strategic fit for Merrill, adding that the price reflected the great potential of the combined group.

Fund management is being seen as one of the greatest areas of growth in the financial services. Around the world, deregulation, demographic trends and the withdrawal of governments from welfare provision are creating opportunities that only large fund managers will be able to fully exploit.

The deal will give Merrill a leading position in UK fund management and access to European and Asian markets. For Mercury, the takeover opens up the vast US market where it has so far had almost no presence.

Hugh Stevenson, chairman of MAM, will remain with Merrill Lynch for a year

to oversee the integration and is then expected to bow out. His deputy chairman, Mr Zimmerman, and vice chair Ms Galley become joint heads of the combined operation, which will be based in London.

The operations of Merrill and MAM are almost completely complementary and Mr Stevenson promised they would be no redundancies as a result of the takeover. MAM employs 1,300 staff in 19 countries, almost insignificant compared to Merrill's 54,200 employees in 45 countries.

The only question mark over the deal was the likely reaction of MAM's institutional clients to its change of ownership. Nigel Taylor, a pensions consultant, who advises several Mercury clients, said: "MAM have been going through a difficult period, performance-wise on their pension fund assets. This on top is going to unnerve people."

Outlook, page 25

P&O-Stena merger gets green light

An Anglo-Scandinavian ferry giant emerged yesterday as Britain's P&O and Sweden's Stena Line were given a conditional go-ahead for their merger by competition authorities in Westminster and Brussels.

Both the UK Government and the European Commission gave the merger the green light provided the two companies agreed to price capping on short Channel routes once duty-free sales were abolished in mid-

1999. The new company, P&O Stena Line, will start operations early in 1998. Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, said the price cap was necessary because the abolition of duty-free retailing might have led to a "fall-out" among ferry operators.

Despite the seemingly onerous

conditions, both companies

expressed delight with the deal.

They have been waiting to com-

bine since October 1996 when

both claimed they needed to cut capacity and end the fierce fare wars between ferry operators.

"We will start implementing the plan within hours. It's been a long time waiting for it but at least it has been worth waiting for," said Lord Sterling, chairman of P&O.

Stena will take a 40 per cent stake in the venture while P&O will get the remaining 60 per cent. Both will have equal voting rights.

Some 1,000 jobs in the total workforce of 5,000 are likely to be axed through voluntary redundancy. The Rail, Maritime and Transport workers union, which represents most staff, gave a cautious welcome to the merger. The two companies will combine operations across the Channel, especially on the lucrative Dover-Calais route, competing mainly with Eurotunnel.

— Randeep Ramesh

NOTICE TO NEW LOOK CARDHOLDERS

THE MONTHLY RATES OF INTEREST APPLICABLE TO NEW LOOK CARD ACCOUNTS OPERATED BY GE CAPITAL BANK LIMITED ARE TO BE INCREASED AS FOLLOWS:—

FOR CARDHOLDERS PAYING BY DIRECT DEBIT THE MONTHLY RATE WILL BE 2.15% (EQUIVALENT TO AN APR OF 29.0 [VARIABLE]). FOR CARDHOLDERS PAYING BY ANY OTHER MEANS THE MONTHLY RATE WILL BE 2.28% (EQUIVALENT TO AN APR OF 31.0 [VARIABLE]).

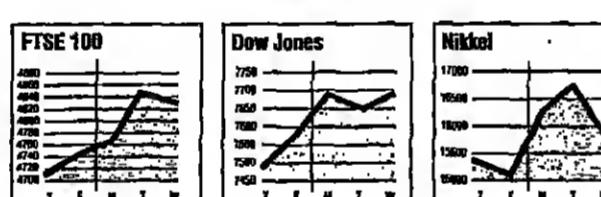
THE NEW RATES WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE ON 1 DECEMBER 1997 AND WILL APPLY TO ALL INTEREST BEARING BALANCES OUTSTANDING ON AND TO ALL TRANSACTIONS DEBITED FROM THAT DATE.

THE FINANCIAL DETAILS IN CARDHOLDERS' CREDIT AGREEMENTS ARE VARIED TO REFLECT THESE CHANGES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THOSE AGREEMENTS.

GE CAPITAL BANK LIMITED.
REGISTERED IN ENGLAND NO. 1456283.
REGISTERED OFFICE:
6 AGAR STREET, LONDON WC2N 4HR.
GE CAPITAL BANK LIMITED IS AFFILIATED WITH GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY (USA) AND NOT CONNECTED WITH THE ENGLISH COMPANY OF A SIMILAR NAME.

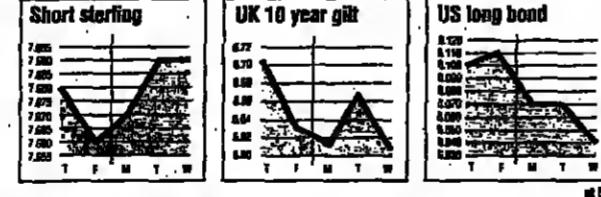
OBM038 11/97

STOCK MARKETS



Index	Close	Change	Change (%)	52 wk high	52 wk low	Yield (%)
FTSE 100	4830.10	-15.30	-0.32	5367.30	3882.70	3.81
FTSE 250	4630.30	6.90	0.15	4953.80	4321.80	3.46
FTSE 350	2335.50	-5.20	-0.22	2450.50	1857.70	3.25
FTSE All Share	2265.91	-5.08	-0.22	2507.28	1922.22	3.56
FTSE SmallCap	2275.31	-4.40	-0.19	2407.40	2175.50	3.26
FTSE Housing	1249.1	-2.00	-0.16	1345.50	1168.70	3.41
FTSE AIM	225.9	0.28	0.12	238.00	205.00	3.05
Dow Jones	7692.32	40.27	0.53	8250.03	6226.05	1.70
Nikkei	15842.48	-884.11	-5.29	21480.57	14968.13	0.87
Hong Kong	10154.86	-40.82	-0.69	16920.31	7775.88	3.82
Dot	3834.82	1.35	0.04	4453.85	2750.11	2.06

INTEREST RATES

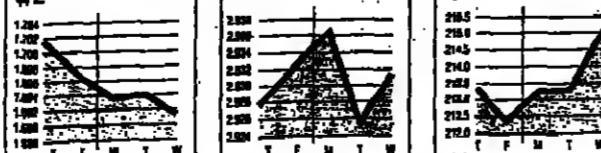


Money Market Rates	3 month	1 yr	10 year	1 yr	10 year	Long bond	1 yr
UK	7.69	1.27	7.94	0.85	6.61	0.88	6.53
US	5.88	0.38	6.00	0.31	5.82	0.34	6.04
Japan	0.44	-0.05	0.53	-0.11	1.94	-0.78	2.54
Germany	3.75	0.57	4.11	0.81	3.52	-0.27	6.15

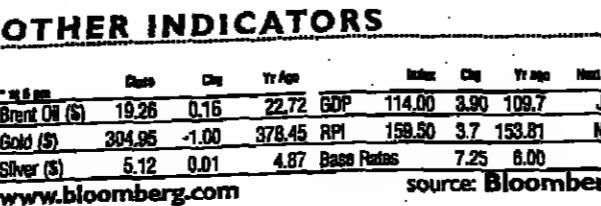
MAIN PRICE CHANGES

Rises	Price (p)	Chg (p)	% Chg	Falls	Price (p)	Chg (p)	% Chg
Mercury Asset	1675.00	360.00	29.24	Ionica Grp	156.50	-50.00	-39.22
M&G Grp	1395.00	180.00	13.82	Stena Grp	330.00	-64.00	-16.24
Perpetual	2475.00	240.00	10.74	Williams	350.3	-39.5	-10.13
Allied Colloids	125.00	10.50	9.17	Ti Group	470	-30	-6

CURRENCIES



£	\$/£	Chg	Yr Ago	DM/£	\$/DM	Chg	Yr Ago
Dollar	1.6915	-0.456	1.6776	0.5912	+0.169	1.5081	
D-Mark	2.9317	+0.539	2.5144	1.7325	+0.739	1.5081	
Yen	215.33	+1.14	187.08	1.2717	+1.14	111.81	
£ Index	104.00	+0.20	92.10	9.5 Index	106.30	+0.80	96.10



source: Bloomberg

www.bloomberg.com

Ionica, the fledgling telecoms operator which entered the market in competition with British Telecom 18 months ago, was facing its first crisis last night after its shares crashed 40 per cent in a day. Michael Harrison examines where the strategy has gone wrong and whether the business can get back on track.

Shares in Ionica, which was floated on the stock market in July at 390p, collapsed by more than £1 yesterday to close at 156.5p, wiping £170m from its market value.

South Korean minister quits as financial crisis explodes

Political heads rolled and a battery of measures were announced yesterday to try and stem the financial crisis in South Korea which is so big that it threatens to make the economic woes of other Asian nations look like little more than a sideshow. Stephen Vines reports from Hong Kong.

The situation in South Korea is now so serious that the government has abandoned all pretence that little bits of tinkering are sufficient to stop the free-fall of the local currency, the massive drop in share prices and a general attack of jitters about the stability of the nation's financial institutions.

Yesterday, a day after the National Assembly showed itself incapable of passing urgently required finance reform bills, the Finance Minister Kang Kyong-shik stepped down to take blame for the crisis and was replaced by Lim Chang-yuel, 53, a former International Monetary Fund (IMF) executive director.

His hand has been strengthened by his additional appointment

ment as deputy premier. The appointment sent a small breeze of optimism through the stock market where the blue chip index, which has been in free-fall in recent weeks, managed a modest 1.6 per cent rally.

Mr Lim has wasted no time in announcing measures which start to address the problems of Korea's chaotic, corrupt and clearly floundering financial system which is attached to one of the world's biggest industrial powerhouses but is light years behind the industrial sector in its development.

According to Mr Lim the nation's banks are saddled with non-performing loans totalling \$28.5bn (£17bn). The outlook for recovery is not good unless there is wholesale restructuring of the financial sector and a large measure of government assistance. For a start Mr Lim announced a trebling of the size of the government's bail out fund for financial institutions to \$10bn.

Meanwhile, there is relentless pressure on the Korean won, which has deviated by more than 20 per cent in the past year. Yesterday it hit a new low of 1,035 against the US dollar. Mr Lim declared that the government would now allow fluctuations of up to 10 per cent, instead of 2.25 per cent, in effect

scuding the won into free float.

This measure will contribute to the greater convertibility of the won, which, in the short term, is likely to be something of a liability but in the longer term will contribute to greater internationalisation of the financial sector.

Mr Lim pushed this process along yesterday by announcing a series of reforms that were previously strongly resisted by conservative figures. Among the more important measures are: the opening of the corporate medium and long term bond market to foreign investors and the stepping up of sovereign loan raising overseas.

A move to give greater access to foreigners in the equity markets was also recently introduced but got rather lost in the scramble for the exit by overseas institutions who had been brave enough to deal in South Korean shares.

The South Korean market had been awash with rumours that Seoul would follow the example of the Thai, Philippine and Indonesian governments in seeking IMF assistance to alleviate the financial crisis. However, fiercely nationalistic and independent Korea is loath to follow suite.

Mr Lim said yesterday that instead of going to the IMF he was looking for "strong" co-operation particularly from the US and Japan, which have extensive ties to Korea. He said that loans from American and Japanese banks would help their economies because of the strength of these ties.

Elsewhere in Asia markets were dominated by low volumes business as investors shied away from taking positions. The Malaysian stock market, which was badly shaken on Tuesday by what looked like a political motivated bailout of a company controlled by the ruling party, remained shaky with shares falling some 3 per cent in value.

Meanwhile, a fresh plunge in Japan's stock market boosted the dollar and US Treasury bonds. The Nikkei index fell more than 5 per cent to 15,842.46, its biggest drop since the January 1995 Kobe earthquake, after Ryutaro Hashimoto, the Prime Minister, denied that public funds would be used to rescue the ailing banking system.

In New York trading, the dollar surged to six month high of Yen 127.34 against the Japanese currency.

The rise in the benchmark 30-year Treasury bond took its yield to the lowest for nearly two years to a pronounced "safe-haven" effect.



Kang Kyong-shik stepped down to take blame for the crisis and was replaced by Lim Chang-yuel, 53 (above), a former International Monetary Fund executive director

Safeway slumps on profits warning

Safeway, the supermarket group which abandoned a £9bn merger with Asda in September, suffered a setback yesterday with a shock profits warning caused by poor sales growth and low product availability. Nigel Cope, City Correspondent, reports on a new victim in the supermarket battle.

Safeway shares lost 16 per cent of their value on the warning as the company said full-year profits were likely to be below those of last year. Management blamed weak sales growth, with same-store sales up by just 0.5 per cent, as well as low product availability and the loss of top-up shoppers to rivals such as Tesco and Sainsbury's. Safeway admitted it had concentrated too much on attracting high-spending family customers without targeting sufficient ranges at other groups.

The company denied it had sought the Asda merger because of the weak performance of its own business but said it

did not intend to restart talks because the regulatory hurdles were likely to prove insurmountable. "I don't see any circumstances under which discussions could be reopened," said Safeway's chief executive, Colin Smith.

As the shares crashed 64p to 330p, analysts said Safeway faced a long haul to improve its performance. "Safeway has been exposed for what it is - Britain's fourth-best supermarket operator," said Andrew Fowler of UBS. Frank Davidson, of HSBC James Capel, said Safeway would find it hard to stimulate its sales because of its weaker brand and a more compromised store portfolio which featured too few large, out-of-town stores.

Another analyst said Safeway would find it much harder than Sainsbury's to engineer a revival: "The difference is that Sainsbury's was a historically very good business that just had a couple of bad years." Mr Smith admitted the company might have taken its eye of the basics of retailing.

The profits warning came as Safeway announced flat first-half profits of £228m. Like-for-like sales increased by just 2.8 per cent on last year.

Investment column, page 27

National Power to spend £1bn abroad

National Power yesterday unveiled plans to invest a further £1bn on overseas expansion and cast doubt on the prospects of clean coal technology coming to the rescue of Britain's mining industry. Michael Harrison reports.

Keith Henry, National Power's chief executive, said its equity investments in overseas ge-

nerating capacity were likely to double in the next two to three years. Since privatisation in 1991, it has spent £1bn taking interests in 8,500 megawatts of plant. But Mr Henry said this figure could rise to 11,000 to 12,000 megawatts by 2000 and result in a further equity investment of £1bn.

National Power has identified seven projects it is hopeful of proceeding with including a \$1.5bn (£890m) coal-fired station in Indonesia and two big gas and coal-fired stations in China.

Botnar ordered to pay £68m

Octav Botnar, the millionaire founder of Nissan UK, was yesterday ordered by the High Court to pay £68m in tax on dividends channelled into a charitable trust set up in memory of his daughter.

Mr Botnar, who has lived as an exile in Switzerland for the past five years following a raid on Nissan UK headquarters by the Inland Revenue in 1991, said he would appeal the judgment. The ruling follows a decision by the Revenue to abandon the prosecution of 84-year-old Mr Botnar on charges of tax fraud and lift two arrest warrants.

- Michael Harrison

PFI receives £500m boost

The Government gave a much-needed boost to the Private Finance Initiative (PFI) yesterday by announcing that it planned to fund £500m worth of local government construction projects in 1998/9, double the amount it has agreed to finance this year. The decision should pave the way for a huge expansion of the

PFI, which is aimed at outsourcing construction projects to private contractors. Most of the £500m will be invested in schools and transport.

The Government has also introduced measures to streamline the PFI process which should speed up the award of con-

tracts. The move comes in response to growing criticism from the private sector of the PFI which has been dogged by heavy delays and bound up in bureaucratic red tape.

Hilary Armstrong, Local Government Minister, said: "Authorities and the private sector can now use the opportunities PFI provides to remedy investment backlog in schools, transport systems, police, fire, waste and other services."

Adrian Montague, head of the Treasury PFI Taskforce, said: "We have a lot of new projects in the pipeline. There is a huge amount of interest in the PFI."

IN BRIEF

Vickers joins Bank of England as director

John Vickers, Professor of Political Economy at Oxford University, has been appointed an executive director and chief economist of the Bank of England. Professor Vickers, an expert on privatisation and regulation, will replace Mervyn King, who becomes a deputy governor of the Bank when the Bank of England Bill passes into law next spring. The Bank has also appointed Richard Brealey, Professor of Finance at the London Business School, as an adviser to the Governor on financial stability. Meanwhile, Sir Alan Budd, former Treasury chief economic adviser, has moved to the Bank's Monetary Policy Committee. Gus O'Donnell, a former aide to John Major, has stepped into Sir Alan's shoes, although in a somewhat changed role, at the Treasury.

BCCI accountant convicted

Abul Hameed Chiragh, the 53-year-old chartered accountant at the centre of the BCCI banking fraud, was yesterday convicted of false accounting, conspiracy to defraud and perverting the course of justice following an investigation by the Serious Fraud Squad. Mr Chiragh was used by BCCI to draw up false accounts for bogus off-shore companies. Mr Chiragh was a friend of Saleem Khan, who is alleged to have received £100,000 in bribes to orchestrate a fraud involving the transfer of \$1.2bn (£710m) of funds to Abbas Gokal and his Gulf Group of multinational companies. The fraud lead to the collapse of BCCI in 1991.

Confidence in Germany dips

Business confidence in western Germany dipped for the first time since April, according to the Ifi survey, falling to 99.7 from 100 in September. The equivalent index for eastern Germany showed an increase from 103.2 to 103.5 but remained below its 1997 average. The Bundesbank reported a drop in the headline growth of M3, its key monetary indicator.

Allied Colloids the share of the day as merger rumours abound

MARKET REPORT



CATHY NEWMAN

Mergers are being concocted in the speciality chemicals sector, according to rumours, with Allied Colloids the main focus of attention. Dealers could not get their hands on the company's shares quick enough yesterday. More than 14 million were traded, sending the price up 10.5p to 125p.

Frantic buying and selling has continued unabated since Tuesday night. One transaction saw 1 million change hands at 118p.

And the buyer? Laporte, which said a few months ago it had £450m to spend, appears to be the predatory name in the frame. Jim Leng, chief executive, has finished restructuring the company and could be looking for other activities to occupy his time. Laporte ended down 7.5p at 62.5p.

The chemicals sector was not the only one to feel some

heat yesterday. Fund managers saw some action following the Merrill Lynch £3.1bn takeover of Mercury Asset Management. MAM jumped 380p to £16.75 and pushed other banking stocks higher. Schroders was the biggest Footsie riser, up 140p to 181.5. Of the second-liners, Perpetual, up 240p to 24.75, and M&G, up 160p to £13.35, were in favour. Henderson joined in the action as well, firming 167.5p to £14.40.

There was talk of corporate action at Reuterkil Initial, which ended the day 17.75p better off at 256.75p. However, the house broker said the volume of shares traded was not out of the ordinary. Just over 4 million changed hands.

Separately, investors in Royal Bank of Scotland were in the mood, with the shares adding 25.5p to 675p after

speculation that Abbey National could bid. The bank was also attracting buyers after news of the merger between First Union and Core States in the US.

Vodafone got the right number yesterday after the previous day's losses. The phone company improved 14.5p to 356p after a snow-storm of positive brokers' notes. Lehman Brothers, SBC Warburg, BZW, UBS and HSBC James Capel all issued buy recommendations.

It was a question of owner unobtainable, though, for another telecoms company, Ionica. The group fell from grace in a spectacular fashion yesterday, just four months after its July flotation. Ionica faced the second-line faller by a long stretch, crashing 101p to 156.5p after gloomy interim results and news that its network

roll-out was to be delayed.

Société Générale and UBS were among those emitting negative noises yesterday.

Retailers were left on the

shelf yesterday after Safeway's profits warning. The company

owed up to a downturn in

sales which led to dull inter-

im results. Brokers' down-

grades followed, and the

company led the Footsie fall-

ers to close 64p poorer at 33p.

SBC Warburg, Société Générale and UBS were

among those emitting negative noises yesterday.

Other remaindered food

retailers were Sainsbury,

down 17.5p at 476.5p, and

Tesco, 16.5p poorer at 473.5p.

Exporters had a tough time as the pound strengthened on the back of better-than-expected retail sales figures.

Among those to feel the pain were TI Group, down 30p at 470p, and Zeneca, off 41p at

£17.17.

Rio Tinto, the global mining giant, was a big Footsie casualty as market-makers took fright at the slide in base metal prices and sent the stock down 26.5p to 720p. UBS is among several brokers to have slashed forecasts. The investment house has lopped its 1998 estimate by 9 per cent. Rio is more exposed to cop-

per than its mining peers, so reports of excess supply in the copper market in the past few days have hit it hard. During the first six months of the year, copper accounted for more than one-fifth of Rio's sales.

P&O got calmed in early trading after news that Margaret Beckett, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, had cleared its merger with Stena Line but had attached conditions. The two cross-channel ferry companies will have to give guarantees about passenger fares. P&O was as low as 651p at one point but rallied later to close just 2p down at 667p.

Another transport company suffering from a lack of fuel was British Airways, 8p worse off at 555p, after easyJet said it was seeking legal advice about the airline's plans to offer a rival "no-frills" service.

TAKING STOCK

CanWest Global Communications, the family-controlled Canadian broadcaster, continues to raise its stake in Ulster TV, one of the last independently owned ITV companies. CanWest, which first bought into Ulster last month, snapped up another 500,000 shares yesterday, taking its holding to 8.38 per cent. Although the company insists it is not about to make a full bid, it is increasing the pressure on Scottish Media Group, which is expected to swallow Ulster.

Savoy Asset Management is hoping to ride on the back of the appetite for fund managers when it comes to the market today. The company, which specialises in fund management and stockbroking, has placed 1.5 million shares at 95p. Dealing is expected to open at 100p to 105p.



Alcoholic Beverages

Banks, Merchant

Banks, Retail

Banks, Wholesaler

Breweries Pubs & Rest.

Bridges

Monty returns to scene of past misery

Six years ago, Kiawah Island staged a dramatic and controversial Ryder Cup. This week the fearsome Ocean Course needs to be tamed again in the World Cup, golf's gentler team event, from which Fred Couples has had to withdraw. Andy Farrell reports from South Carolina.

Not everyone was overwhelmed when it was announced that the 43rd World Cup of Golf was to be played on the Ocean Course at Kiawah Island. Bernhard Langer, for one, decided to leave the German challenge in the capable, if less renowned, hands of Alex Cejka and Sven Struver.

Langer has been a great supporter of the two-man nations competition, winning the individual trophy in 1993. But returning to the site of his missed six-footer, on the last green of the last match, with which America regained the Ryder Cup six years ago was too much to ask.

Four members of that European team – England's Paul Broadhurst and Mark James, Ian Woosnam, of Wales, and the Scot Colin Montgomerie – are here hoping to take home better memories than those from what was dubbed the 'War on the Shore'.

Fred Couples was due to appear alongside Davis Love. The pair won the World Cup four years in a row from 1992, but Couples has remained in Seattle to comfort his father in his fight against leukaemia.

He has been replaced by the Open champion, Justin

Leonard, who like Love and Ernie Els arrived yesterday after playing in the 36-hole Grand Slam event for the four major winners in Hawaii. The threesome flew across half of the Pacific, the whole of America and five time-zones to tee up in the pro-am.

It was worth their while. Els, who defends the World Cup title he and Wayne Westner won for South Africa in Cape Town last year, picked up \$400,000 (£245,000) after beating Tiger Woods by three with a second-round 65. Leonard earned \$150,000 for finishing fourth.

Montgomerie started the unofficial, or "silly", season well by winning the King Hassan Trophy in Morocco using a new set of irons. In his singles match in the 91 Ryder Cup he scored an approximate 81, but halved with Mark Calcavecchia. Five down at the turn the Scot won the last four holes with scores of six, five, five, four. He blamed the new, hard course with its ultra-fast greens. "It is softer now so the fairways will play wider," he said.

Though Montgomerie, after some agonising, decided to remain based on the European tour, where he has won the money list five times in a row, he will take up his maximum allocation of 12 events in America next year.

The main point was whether I felt I could win a major playing in Europe," Monty said. "I know I can. It is about getting my schedule right, not playing in Europe the week before a major in America, that sort of thing. I am fortunate that I have the option to do a bit of both. I am comfortable in Europe because I have been successful. Why change a successful pattern?"

CRICKET

Inzamam rides luck to keep Pakistan on top

West Indies 151 and 99-2
Pakistan 381

Inzamam-ul-Haq, batting with a 'runner', was dropped, five times on his way to an unbeaten 92 as Pakistan tightened their grip on the first Test against the West Indies in Peshawar yesterday.

Inzamam missed out on scoring his first Test century at home when he ran out of partners in a total of 381. The West Indies, trailing by 230 runs on first innings, were 99 for 2 at the close of the third day.

Brian Lara blazed 36 in boundaries and with the opener Sherwin Campbell (34 not out), will spearhead the touring team's attempt to save the match today.

Pakistan's captain, Wasim Akram, is well aware of the dan-

ger Lara poses. "If we are going to win then we will have to get Lara out before he is set on Thursday," he said. "They are a very dangerous side and can bounce back any time."

Inzamam, whose right toe was crushed twice, once while fielding on the first day and the other when batting on Tuesday, which forced his retirement on 13, batted for just under five hours. He resumed his innings during the second over of the day after Azhar Mahmood (16) had departed with only four runs added to Pakistan's overnight score of 246 for 5. His 191-ball innings included nine fours and two sixes. The generous West Indies' fielders dropped him on 53, 35, 86 and 88.

Mushtaq Ahmed's wicket to end the innings gave the West Indies' captain, Courtney Walsh, his 14th five-wicket haul

in 94 Tests. Walsh, who took the wickets of Aamir Sohail and Mohammed Wasim the previous day, added the scalps of Azhar Mahmood, Shahid Nazir and Mushtaq yesterday to finish with 5 for 78.

Third day: West Indies won by 200. Final: 2nd innings 151 (Pakistan 381)

PAKISTAN – First Innings

(Overnight 246 for 5)

1st Inn: Khan v Walsh 15

2nd Inn: Khan v Bishop 4

3rd Inn: Nazir v Walsh 13

4th Inn: Akram v Bishop 22

Total (2d, 57, 101, 102) 381

Final (cont'd): 6-232, 7-294, 8-304, 9-347

Bowling: Anderson 10-1-62-10; Broad 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Srinivasan 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Cooper 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Extras (2d, 57, 101, 102) 20-0-92-2

WEST INDIES – Second Innings

(Overnight 151 for 2)

1st Inn: Walsh v Bishop 23

2nd Inn: Campbell not out 34

3rd Inn: Chanderpaul v Bishop 14

4th Inn: C. Lewis not out 14

5th Inn: Lewis 10-1-62-10

Total (for 2) 14-2-68-5

Fall (cont'd): 1-232, 2-294, 3-304, 4-347

Bowling: Anderson 10-1-62-10; Broad 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Srinivasan 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Cooper 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Extras (2d, 57, 101, 102) 20-0-92-2

Final (cont'd): 6-232, 7-294, 8-304, 9-347

Bowling: Anderson 10-1-62-10; Broad 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Srinivasan 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Cooper 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Extras (2d, 57, 101, 102) 20-0-92-2

WEST INDIES – Second Innings

(Overnight 151 for 2)

1st Inn: Walsh v Bishop 23

2nd Inn: Campbell not out 34

3rd Inn: Chanderpaul v Bishop 14

4th Inn: C. Lewis not out 14

5th Inn: Lewis 10-1-62-10

Total (for 2) 14-2-68-5

Fall (cont'd): 1-232, 2-294, 3-304, 4-347

Bowling: Anderson 10-1-62-10; Broad 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Srinivasan 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Cooper 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Extras (2d, 57, 101, 102) 20-0-92-2

Final (cont'd): 6-232, 7-294, 8-304, 9-347

Bowling: Anderson 10-1-62-10; Broad 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Srinivasan 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Cooper 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Extras (2d, 57, 101, 102) 20-0-92-2

WEST INDIES – Second Innings

(Overnight 151 for 2)

1st Inn: Walsh v Bishop 23

2nd Inn: Campbell not out 34

3rd Inn: Chanderpaul v Bishop 14

4th Inn: C. Lewis not out 14

5th Inn: Lewis 10-1-62-10

Total (for 2) 14-2-68-5

Fall (cont'd): 1-232, 2-294, 3-304, 4-347

Bowling: Anderson 10-1-62-10; Broad 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Srinivasan 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Cooper 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Extras (2d, 57, 101, 102) 20-0-92-2

Final (cont'd): 6-232, 7-294, 8-304, 9-347

Bowling: Anderson 10-1-62-10; Broad 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Srinivasan 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Cooper 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Extras (2d, 57, 101, 102) 20-0-92-2

WEST INDIES – Second Innings

(Overnight 151 for 2)

1st Inn: Walsh v Bishop 23

2nd Inn: Campbell not out 34

3rd Inn: Chanderpaul v Bishop 14

4th Inn: C. Lewis not out 14

5th Inn: Lewis 10-1-62-10

Total (for 2) 14-2-68-5

Fall (cont'd): 1-232, 2-294, 3-304, 4-347

Bowling: Anderson 10-1-62-10; Broad 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Srinivasan 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Cooper 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Extras (2d, 57, 101, 102) 20-0-92-2

Final (cont'd): 6-232, 7-294, 8-304, 9-347

Bowling: Anderson 10-1-62-10; Broad 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Srinivasan 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Cooper 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Extras (2d, 57, 101, 102) 20-0-92-2

WEST INDIES – Second Innings

(Overnight 151 for 2)

1st Inn: Walsh v Bishop 23

2nd Inn: Campbell not out 34

3rd Inn: Chanderpaul v Bishop 14

4th Inn: C. Lewis not out 14

5th Inn: Lewis 10-1-62-10

Total (for 2) 14-2-68-5

Fall (cont'd): 1-232, 2-294, 3-304, 4-347

Bowling: Anderson 10-1-62-10; Broad 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Srinivasan 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Cooper 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Extras (2d, 57, 101, 102) 20-0-92-2

Final (cont'd): 6-232, 7-294, 8-304, 9-347

Bowling: Anderson 10-1-62-10; Broad 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Srinivasan 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Cooper 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Extras (2d, 57, 101, 102) 20-0-92-2

WEST INDIES – Second Innings

(Overnight 151 for 2)

1st Inn: Walsh v Bishop 23

2nd Inn: Campbell not out 34

3rd Inn: Chanderpaul v Bishop 14

4th Inn: C. Lewis not out 14

5th Inn: Lewis 10-1-62-10

Total (for 2) 14-2-68-5

Fall (cont'd): 1-232, 2-294, 3-304, 4-347

Bowling: Anderson 10-1-62-10; Broad 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Srinivasan 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Cooper 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Extras (2d, 57, 101, 102) 20-0-92-2

Final (cont'd): 6-232, 7-294, 8-304, 9-347

Bowling: Anderson 10-1-62-10; Broad 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Srinivasan 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Cooper 20-0-92-2; Lewis 20-0-63-0 (10 wkt); Extras (2d, 57, 101, 102) 20-0-92-2

